

FBI

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 022

1 February 1984

ARGENTINA

Alfonsin, Radical Senators Discuss Military Code	B	1
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 31 Jan]		
Arrest, Prosecution of Gen Suarez Mason Ordered	B	1
Interior Minister Discusses Programs, Opposition	B	2
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 30 Jan]		
Commerce Secretary on Price Controls, Inflation	B	2
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 31 Jan]		
Unions: New Leaders, Debate on Government Role	B	3
Peronists Object to SUPE Administrator	B	3
CGT Executive Board Elected	B	3
Minister on Union Leadership	B	4
CGT Repudiates Interventions	B	4
Subway Workers Union Plans 1 February Strike	B	5
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 31 Jan]		
Deputy Predicts Peronist Party 'Crisis'	B	5
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 30 Jan]		

BOLIVIA

Siles Travels to Caracas for Inauguration	C	1
Police Strike Continues; Commander Resigns	C	1

BRAZIL

Foreign Ministry Spokesman on Shultz Visit [O GLOBO 31 Jan]	D	1
Finance Minister Galveas on International Loans [O GLOBO 31 Jan]	D	1
Trains Stoned, Pillaged in Sao Paulo; 8 Arrested	D	2
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 31 Jan]		
Itinerant Workers Loot Supermarket in Sao Paulo	D	2
Briefs: Fuel Prices Increase	D	2

CHILE

Foreign Policy To Place Emphasis on Antarctic	E	1
[LA TERCERA DE LA HORA 15 Jan]		
Newspaper Reports on MIR 'Operation Return'	E	1
[EL MERCURIO 23 Jan]		
MIR's Foreign Contacts [EL MERCURIO 23 Jan]	E	3
Carabineros Officer Shot by 'Terrorist'	E	3
Jewish Demonstrators Arrested in Santiago	E	4
Briefs: New PRODEN President; 1983 Foreign Investments;	E	4
Maritime Confederation Created		

COLOMBIA

Foreign Minister on Stone Visit, Contadora Group	F	1
Betancur on Meeting Panama's Noriega, Joint Canal	F	2

Navy Acquires Missile-Equipped Corvettes	[EL TIEMPO 25 Jan]	F	4
Large-Scale Antiguerilla Operation in Magdalena		F	4

PARAGUAY

UN Commission To Study National State of Siege		H	1
Old MOPOCO Attempts To Kill Stroessner Revealed	[ABC COLOR 28 Jan]	H	1
MOPOCO Rejects Charges	[ABC COLOR 29 Jan]	H	2
National Accord Condemns Attacks	[ABC COLOR 29 Jan]	H	3

PERU

President Announces Elections for 31 March 1985		J	1
Interior Minister Reports on Student Disturbances		J	1
Evaluates Arrests		J	1
Emphasizes Law, Order		J	1
Explains Arrest of French Nun		J	1
Police Reportedly Break Up Terrorist Cell		J	2
Shining Path Reportedly Tries, Executes 18		J	2

MEXICO

Press on Reagan's Reelection Announcement		M	1
Mexican Professionals Leave To Help Nicaragua		M	1
San Jose Pact Oil Statistics Reported by SEMIP		M	2
1983 Trade Surplus With Austria Reported		M	2

PANAMA

Communist Leader Seeks Electoral Alliance	[CRITICA 31 Jan]	N	1
Paper Cites Barletta's Development Plan	[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 28 Jan]	N	1

CENTRAL AMERICA

Contadora Group Meetings Held in Panama		P	1
Work Commissions		P	1
Deputy Foreign Ministers		P	1

COSTA RICA

Government Denies Entry to Pastora ARDE Fighters		P	2
Security Council Session Held		P	2
Statement Issued		P	2
Threat to Security Cited		P	3
PVP Congress To 'Reinstate' Valverde in Office		P	4
[LA NACION 18 Jan]			

EL SALVADOR

Shultz Visit Previewed by Presidential Candidates		P	5
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 31 Jan]			
Magana Says Meeting With Shultz 'Frank, Positive'		P	6
FMLN's Handal Statements Causing 'Concern'		P	6
Plans Under Way for 'World Solidarity Week'		P	7
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 30 Jan]			
Army Claims 26 FMLN Casualties in Eastern Clashes		P	7

Farabundo Marti Slams Shultz-Stone Visit	P 8
Deplores Reagan Candidacy	P 8
Venceremos Cites Critics of Reagan Candidacy	P 9
PRTC Leader Delivers Anniversary Message [Farabundo Marti]	P 9
Farabundo Marti: Honduras Bombs Chalatenango	P 10
Venceremos Reports Bombing of Several Cantons	P 10

GUATEMALA

Editorial Assails Press Ban at Palace Meeting	P 11
Andrade Lauds U.S. Congress Human Rights Report	P 11
Electoral Law Decree Provisions Detailed	P 12
[DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA 19 Jan]	

HONDURAS

DIN Chief Denies Death Squad Allegations	P 24
Alvarez on 'Granadera I,' Rift With Suazo	P 25
[LA PRENSA 30 Jan]	

NICARAGUA

Reportage on Reaction to Reagan Candidacy	P 25
State Council Secretary	P 25
Political, Religious Figures	P 26
Ortega Certain of FSLN Electoral Victory	P 27
[San Jose LA NACION 20 Jan]	
Electoral Commission Approves Draft Bill	P 28
Counterrevolutionaries Suffer 200 Casualties	P 28
ARDE Reports Military Clashes With Sandinists	P 28
[Voice of Sandino]	

CUBA

SELA's Alegrett Visits Bank, Discusses Policies	Q 1
Holds Talks With Cabrisas	Q 1
Reportage on Rodriguez Visit to Bulgaria [cross-reference]	Q 1
CTC Commemorates CEPUSTAL's 20th Anniversary	Q 1
Second Spare Parts Conference Continues	Q 1
Arrival of Shultz, Stone in El Salvador Noted	Q 2
FMLN Charges Mass Recruitment by Salvadoran Army	Q 2
ORPA Reports Occupation of Farms in Guatemala	Q 3
Interview With Guatemalan EGP Member on Struggle	Q 3
U.S.-Honduran 'Big Pine II' Maneuvers To End Soon	Q 4
7,000 Troops Participate	Q 4
Honduran Airstrips Reportedly Help Contras	Q 5
Salvadorans in Honduras Oppose Resettlement	Q 5
Nicaragua's Torres Quoted on Contra Casualties	Q 5
Nicaraguan Government Plans Projects for Zelaya	Q 6
Regional Force To Become OECS Joint Armed Forces	Q 6
Chilean Refugees Refused Permission To Emigrate	Q 6
Stone Meets With President Betancur in Bogota	Q 7
Social Democrat Leads in Ecuadoran Elections	Q 7
Continuation of Peruvian Workers Strikes Noted	Q 7
Federation Demands Report on Missing Peruvians	Q 7
Armed Attacks, Other Violence in Peru Reported	Q 8
Bomb Blast in Lima	Q 8

Power Plant Attacked	Q 8
Student Unrest Noted	Q 8
Police, Students Clash	Q 9
5 Peasants Killed	Q 9
Peruvian Prisoners Issue Statement on Abuse	Q 9
Women, Children Protest Regime in Uruguay	Q 10
Mexico's Sepulveda on L.A. Economic Problems	Q 10
Mexican Rightist Party Threatens Puebla Mayor	Q 10

CARIBBEAN

OESC, Other States Meet on Grenada Security	S 1
Communique Issued	S 1
Peacekeeping Force To Remain	S 1
Guyana Questions Seating of Grenada at Caricom	S 2
Barbados Minister on Guyana Caricom Meeting	S 3
Minister Wants To End 'Technological Colonialism'	S 3

DOMINICA

Savarin Statement on Trade Relations With Guyana	S 4
--	-----

GRENADA

First Tourist Ship Since Revolution To Arrive	S 4
---	-----

JAMAICA

Seaga Announces Plan To Establish News Agency	S 5
Banana Industry Moves Back Toward Private Sector	S 6
Briefs: 1983 Cocoa Production	S 6

GUYANA

Greenridge Addresses Parliament on Foreign Debt	T 1
IDB Approves Loan for Giant Agricultural Project	T 1
Briefs: Ambassadors To Present Credentials	T 2

SURINAME

Manufacturers To Cooperate in Crisis Government	U 1
---	-----

OTHER COUNTRIES

URUGUAY

Government Employee Strikes Prohibited	V 1
--	-----

VENEZUELA

MAS Leader Denies Reports of Resignations	V 1
---	-----

ALFONSIN, RADICAL SENATORS DISCUSS MILITARY CODE

PY010020 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 31 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin met Radical Senate leaders yesterday evening to discuss the reforms to the Military Code of Justice, which are on the Senate's agenda for today. The impromptu meeting was held at the presidential residence in Olivos.

The most sensitive point in the reform bill in its present form seems to be the assumption that obedience of orders, unless there is "proof to the contrary" of excessive zeal, is a valid excuse for illegal antiterrorist activities. Peronist Senate leader Vicente Saadi (Catamarca) yesterday called the reforms "a concealed amnesty for 98 percent of the criminals." Senator Ricardo Berhongaray (Radical-La Pampa) has described exoneration of those who were merely obeying orders as a principle which "is not negotiable" but observers consider it unlikely that the bill will be passed without amendments on this point.

However, Peronist senators are reported to be satisfied with a Radical amendment permitting civilian witnesses at courts-martial of antiterrorist excesses to be represented, thus removing the objection that many potential witnesses would hesitate to appear in military courts. Radical senators have also tightened up the procedure for appealing courts-martial sentences in the Federal Appeals Court, which was already approved in the Lower House bill.

The Peronists would also like to see more scope for civilian jurisdiction over common crimes in the bill and can apparently count on a Senate majority thanks to the support of the Movement for Integration and Development (MID) and the Neuquen Popular Movement. However, any amendments they impose are likely to be removed by the Radical majority in the Chamber of Deputies when the bill is returned to the Lower House.

ARREST, PROSECUTION OF GEN SUAREZ MASON ORDERED

PY312010 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2100 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpt] La Plata, 30 Jan (NA) -- La Plata Federal Judge Hector Gustavo de la Serna today initiated a criminal prosecution of the former commander of the I Army Corps, General Carlos Suarez Mason. De la Serna ordered that Gen Suarez Mason be detained and held incommunicado for failing to appear at a hearing in the case on the kidnapping and disappearance of Carlos Esteban Alaye.

There is also a warrant for the arrest of Gen Suarez Mason in the trial on the disappearance of an INTI [National Institute of Industrial Technology] technician, Alfredo Giorgi, a case which is being heard by Trial Judge Luis Cordoba, with jurisdiction in San Martin, Buenos Aires Province.

De la Serna based his ruling on the provisions of Article 243 of the Penal Code, which punishes by 15 days to 1 month imprisonment anyone who fails to report without due cause for a sworn statement after being summoned to do so.

De la Serna also issued requests to the provincial police, Federal Police, and Interpol for the search and imprisonment of Gen Suarez Mason in any judicial or police center of detention.

INTERIOR MINISTER DISCUSSES PROGRAMS, OPPOSITION

PY010010 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 31 Jan 84 p 7

[Text] (NA) -- Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli yesterday said that the present Radical administration "has inherited a situation which is far more serious than could reasonably have been expected," and admitted that there has been "an escalation of opposition and criticism (in recent days)."

It was very difficult to reach agreement in such a situation of "extreme emergency," the Radical minister continued, but promised that the government would not attempt to "extort" concessions from parliament. Speaking in a TV interview on Channel 9, he also praised the police for some "spectacular successes" and for "providing a splendid example of adjustment to the new situation."

In the economic sector, Troccoli estimated that it would take at least six months to bring down inflation significantly and restore tax revenue. He argued that it was impossible to define economic policies while the annual inflation rate was 430 percent. On the political front, Troccoli considered that the Multiparty Grouping "has not expired" but could still make further contributions to Argentine institutional life after spearheading the return to democracy. He withheld a clearcut answer to questions about how the opposition was fulfilling its role.

When asked about the financial crises in the provinces, the minister insisted that "we have fulfilled our commitment to send federal aid to all the provinces so that they can pay every cent of salaries (to provincial civil servants)."

COMMERCE SECRETARY ON PRICE CONTROLS, INFLATION

PY312330 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 Jan 84 p 5

[Text] (DYN) -- Commerce Secretary Ricardo Campero yesterday said before his departure to Brazil that "price controls will continue in February and will be maintained as long as the emergency lasts."

Campero also estimated that this month's inflation rate will reach a final figure of 11.7 percent while reliable Economy Ministry sources yesterday specified that January inflation will be 11.9 percent and February increases in the cost of living 10.8 percent. Increases in the price of meat, which alone accounted for three points of the rise, were blamed but the sources expressed optimism that inflation for the year could be held down to 100 percent. Describing the fight against inflation as one of the main challenges, Campero termed his 11.7 percent figure a "satisfactory level" and described the government's aim of reaching a monthly inflation rate of three or four percent by December as not so much a "political wish" as a "real probability."

He further admitted that he was subject to a certain amount of pressure by manufacturers because of his price control policies and pledged that real wages would be preserved. He also promised that the economic crisis would not be solved at the expense of regional economies or those with limited means.

These statements were made at Ezeiza International Airport shortly before flying off to Brazil and Venezuela to discuss Argentina's trade with those countries.

UNIONS: NEW LEADERS, DEBATE ON GOVERNMENT ROLE

Peronists Object to SUPE Administrator

PY310245 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0130 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 30 Jan (NA) -- The government today dismissed the transitory commission of the United Trade Union of State Petroleum Workers (SUPE) and in its place named an administrator, whose efforts to take office will allegedly be forcibly rejected by the dismissed leaders.

Resolution No 38 of Saturday, 28 January, issued by the Labor Ministry, states that Francisco Gallego was appointed administrator because "the members of the transitory commission named by the military government are not representative of all the SUPE internal sectors."

The president of the bloc of Peronist deputies and former SUPE secretary general termed the event as "an intervention" and said that "it is unreasonable."

Marcos Alvarez, president of the dismissed commission, in turn, did not discount the possibility that the trade union might reject the government's decision by force, "unless we reach an agreement so that the secretary generals of the various branches that belonged to the commission not be dismissed."

Alvarez said that he had informed the General Labor Confederation [CGT] of this issue and said that he believes that the CGT will voice its solidarity with the transitory commission tomorrow."

CGT Executive Board Elected

PY311045 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2256 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Jan (NA) -- In compliance with the proposals made by the various groups, the executive board of the General Labor Confederation [CGT] will be formed as follows:

General secretariat: Saul Ubaldini (brewers); Osvaldo Borda (rubber workers); Jorge Triaca (plastic workers); and Ramon Baldassini (mail workers).

Internal affairs secretariat: Luis Guerrero (metalworkers); Pedro Goyeneche (textile workers); Juan Jorvath (public servants); Carlos Cabrera (mine workers); Jose Pedraza (railway workers), and Patricio Dana (butchers).

Secretariat for labor union affairs: Carlos West Ocampo (public health workers); Rene Azar (streetcar workers); Ruben Pereyra (sanitary workers); Amadeo Genta (municipal workers); Marcos Alvarez (Government Oil Deposits' employees); and Osmar Taglia (tanners [barraqueros]).

Social action secretariat: Juan Prado (telegraph workers); Enrique Ferradas Campos (television workers); Juan Perrone (telephone workers); Carlos Godoy (workers of private petroleum enterprises); Cesar Loza (stevedors); Cayo Ayala (naval workers).

Press and minutes secretariat: Armando Cavalieri (merchants); Aldo Serrano (light and power); Raul Gomez (porters); Jose Castillo (naval pilots); Horacio Alonso (judicial workers); and Juan Zanola (bank workers).

Finance secretariat: Jorge Sansat (private aircraft pilots); and a vacant post for either a representative of the mechanics or construction workers.

Secretariat for international affairs: Enrique Venturini (naval electricians); Luis Maguid (state civil personnel); Roberto Digon (tobacco workers), and Manuel Diz Rey (traveling salesmen).

Secretariat for legislative affairs; Ramon Valle (insurance company workers); and a vacant post for a representative of the construction sector.

Minister on Union Leadership

PY311204 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Labor Minister Antonio Mucci has said that he believes that our labor union leadership, while deserving respect, is not representative and that it is time to renew it and to give a chance to the new generations. After a meeting in Mar del Plata with the mayor of General Pueyrredon, he commented: There are 30-year-old workers who have never seen a union assembly. Regarding the union reorganization bill, the minister stressed that this draft law is generous and will make it possible for everyone to learn about the rules of democracy and the equality of opportunity to elect and be elected. He added that the new labor union law will be the start of a new stage in which we will have to lift this country out of the stagnation in which it has been submerged for so many years. This work will have to be done by all of us together, without party distinctions.

CGT Repudiates Interventions

PY312305 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2037 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Jan (NA) -- The CGT [General Confederation of Labor] today ratified its "nationwide state of readiness and mobilization" in repudiation of government interventions in three affiliated labor unions, and it has decided to denounce the interventions to the Labor Union Freedom Commission of the International Labor Organization (ILO) and to other international organizations.

The CGT's council made this determination today at noon. It has also declared itself in "permanent session" and has voiced its solidarity with the labor unions in which the Labor Ministry dismissed the ad-interim commissions and appointed administrative representatives.

The labor unions that were intervened are the United Trade Union of State Petroleum Workers (SUPE) and the Federation of Telephone Workers and Employees of the Argentine Republic (FOETRA), which yesterday joined the National Railway Union, in which the Labor Ministry replaced the ad-interim commission on 12 January.

The first international charge about these events will take place in the next few hours in Venezuela before the Confederation of Venezuelan Workers (CTV), taking advantage of the fact that union leaders Manuel Diz Rey (traveling salesmen) and Juan Zanola (bank employees) are in Venezuela for the inauguration of President-Elect Jaime Lusinchi. Similar charges will be made to the ILO's Labor Union Freedom Commission and to the ICFTUO with which the CGT is affiliated.

Within the framework of its response to the government decisions, the CGT's council will hold plenary meetings during the next few days with the regional organizations of Santa Fe, Corrientes, San Juan, Tucuman, and Neuquen Provinces.

The CGT's council has assigned several of its members to visit the leaders of the unions that were intervened yesterday. Other members will meet with legislators who are in charge of reconciling the draft bills on the reorganization of the labor unions.

SUBWAY WORKERS UNION PLANS 1 FEBRUARY STRIKE

PY010015 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 31 Jan 84 p 7

[Text] (DYN) -- A 24-hour strike set for tomorrow was called last night by Subway Workers' Union members in protest against the non-response by the government to claims that unhealthy work conditions are affecting subway workers. The strike, halting all underground transportation, will begin at midnight tonight and workers will congregate in front of the Labour Ministry on Wednesday, union spokesmen said.

DEPUTY PREDICTS PERONIST PARTY 'CRISIS'

PY312320 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 Jan 84 p 5

[Text] (NA) -- Justicialist Deputy Miguel Unamuno said yesterday Peronism "is in the early stages of a crisis...the climax of which will be reached" when former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron returns in February. He also labelled as "dishonest" (tramposa) Peronist party statutes of the federal capital's branch because they allow the "indirect" election of representatives to the National Justicialist Congress, which selects national party candidates.

Unamuno added the "crisis" will create "a division in the party, in Congress and in everything related" to the Peronist movement.

Commenting on the government's union reorganization bill, the union-based politician said the Peronist caucus will not negotiate further and that "everything now depends on the Radicals, though he was optimistic that an agreement with the Radicals to present Congress with a joint Radical-Peronist report on the bill will be worked out.

Unamuno, a congressman for the federal capital and a member of the internal Movement for Unity, Solidarity and Organization (MUSO) grouping, added that "no one really wins" internal Peronist elections in Buenos Aires because of a system which only allows party members to directly vote for the federal capital branch's directive board. The important posts to the National Peronist Congress are indirectly elected, Unamuno added.

SILES TRAVELS TO CARACAS FOR INAUGURATION

PY011036 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpts] President Hernan Siles Zuazo left for Caracas, Venezuela, after handing over power to Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora. The handing over took place following customary procedures, with no greater ceremony, in the El Alto International Airport's VIP hall. No speeches were made, and the journalists there simply watched the two government leaders exchange a few words.

They both made separate statements to the national media. Shortly before boarding the plane that would take him to Caracas, President Siles said that he wished happiness to the Bolivian people because thanks to their efforts and sacrifice they were able to overcome the crisis endured for the past few days.

Siles said that he was leaving for Venezuela with great confidence because his trust in the Bolivian people had on many occasions proven them worthy of the democratic process. The Bolivian people are worthy of a better future, therefore, we are determined to bring better times for the country. These were President Siles Zuazo's statements shortly before leaving for Caracas, where he will attend the inauguration ceremony of new Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi.

POLICE STRIKE CONTINUES; COMMANDER RESIGNS

PY311850 Paris AFP in Spanish 1702 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpts] La Paz, 31 Jan (AFP) -- Members of the so-called Leopard Group, which specializes in combating drug traffic, took over the National Congress Guard today, since the police strike declared yesterday is continuing. The Leopards, who have received special training from U.S. experts, suddenly appeared at the Congress building, to the surprise of the congressmen.

Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata said, after a meeting with the police command, that the strike of the officers and policemen, who are demanding a salary increase, is illegal. He announced that disciplinary measures will be taken against those who have directed the strike movement. Meanwhile, the government is discussing the appointment of a new police commander, since General Mario Teran Lavandenz has resigned.

In Santa Cruz, east of here, police forces have declared themselves in a state of emergency anticipating the possibility that Teran Lavandenz may be confirmed in his post.

[La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish at 1700 GMT on 31 January reported that Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata said that the police strike in La Paz is only partial and that he expects that the policemen will return to work today. He said in a recorded statement: "As far as La Paz is concerned, the strike is only partial. There are units that are working normally here. In the interior, as far as I know, the activity of the police is completely normal." The interior minister also said: "The Leopards are patrolling the city as of this morning."]

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON SHULTZ VISIT

PY312335 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 31 Jan 84 p 4

[Text] Brasilia -- Foreign Ministry spokesman Bernardo Pericas yesterday admitted that the Brazilian Government is interested in discussing bilateral, international, "and even economic" issues with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. However, he denied that the Brazilian foreign minister has written a letter to Shultz expressing this wish to him because, according to Pericas, there is no news in these areas on the part of Brazil.

Pericas said that "whenever there are bilateral meetings, these issues are discussed." According to Pericas, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro will hold negotiations next Monday, after the closing ceremony of the five work groups that will evaluate the situation of bilateral cooperation in different sectors, and he added that "it is obvious that the Brazilian foreign minister will take advantage of the secretary's visit to discuss economic issues."

Shultz will arrive in Rio on Friday, and on Saturday he will hold a meeting with all U.S. ambassadors appointed to South American countries. On Sunday afternoon, he will depart for Brasilia where on Monday he will close the sessions of the five joint cooperation groups on the nuclear, special-affairs, economy-finance, military industry, and science and technology areas. On this occasion, the Brazilian foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state will sign a joint letter through which they will submit the groups' reports to President Ronald Reagan and President Joao Figueiredo.

Observers noted in Washington that there are still some thorny controversial bilateral trade issues pending between the United States and Brazil that must be discussed during Shultz's visit, mainly those connected with U.S. protectionism and subsidies of Brazilian exports.

One of the issues that most concerns Brazil, according to these same sources, is that of military cooperation with the United States, particularly in the technological sector, since this will mean a new thrust to the Brazilian defense industry, which is responsible for about \$2 billion worth of exports per year.

FINANCE MINISTER GALVEAS ON INTERNATIONAL LOANS

PY010230 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 31 Jan 84 p 20

[By correspondent Janos Lengyel]

[Text] Davos, Switzerland -- Finance Minister Ernane Galveas yesterday disclosed that in 1985 Brazil will need another jumbo loan of \$4 billion and that in 3 or 4 months time it will start negotiating with its creditor banks and the IMF to reschedule the portions of its foreign debt due for payment next year.

In his speech addressed to the "European Management Forum," the minister referred to the measures that the Brazilian Government is taking to balance its economy and to regain international confidence.

"With decision and courage Brazil has and is continuing to make an effort to regain confidence. I am convinced that the country will surface from the crisis stronger than ever, with a fully balanced economy and with gradually less dependence on foreign resources -- free, after all, of the terrible pressure of having to import energy."

Galveas noted the importance of the \$28.3-billion package that the country has just signed with approximately 670 international banks and that will allow Brazil to pay debts that were due in 1983 and its foreign debts in 1984. The minister said that the package includes a \$6.5-billion jumbo loan, rescheduling 1984's \$5.5-billion debt, the banks' formal commitment to maintain the interbank loan at \$6 billion, and the banks' granting the country \$10.3 billion in commercial credit lines.

Galveas once again protested high interest rates and the protectionist measures imposed by industrialized countries, "two factors that still hinder the economic recovery" of Brazil. The minister also requested a more active participation by the international organizations, governments, and central banks in rescheduling the country's foreign debt, and he criticized the IMF's behavior: "The great defect of the IMF is that it only acts on the side of one party by imposing conditions on the indebted countries. It is impotent, however, when it comes to imposing itself on the countries that grant loans. For instance, the IMF has no power at all to force the United States to reduce its interest rates or to make it grant loans on less onerous terms."

TRAINS STONED, PILLAGED IN SAO PAULO; 8 ARRESTED

PY312332 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 31 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Sao Paulo -- Nearly 50 persons yesterday night pillaged two trains in greater Sao Paulo because of a delay. Several cars in a train were stoned near Santo Andre at about 2130 [0030 GMT]. Eight persons were detained and taken to the Sao Caetano do Sul police station. Another train was pillaged by dozens of demonstrators at the Mooca railroad station in eastern Sao Paulo at 2300 [0200 GMT]. The military police moved to the site in an attempt to stop the criminals.

ITINERANT WORKERS LOOT SUPERMARKET IN SAO PAULO

PY311513 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Fifty hungry and unemployed itinerant workers today looted the largest supermarket in the Sao Joaquim de Barra district in Sao Paulo and took 5 million cruzeiros worth of food. The workers peacefully walked into the (Degiovanni) supermarket in the downtown area of Sao Paulo and told the owner that they were taking some food items because their families were hungry.

BRIEFS

FUEL PRICES INCREASE -- The National Petroleum Council has increased the prices of the following products as of 0000 26 January: ethylene alcohol 26.7 percent; diesel oil 29 percent; kerosene 30.2 percent; low sulphur fuel oil 30.5 percent; aviation kerosene (727.9) percent; and lubricants 14 percent. The average increase is 28.5 percent.

[Summary] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 Jan 84 PY]

FOREIGN POLICY TO PLACE EMPHASIS ON ANTARCTIC

PY312120 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 15 Jan 84 p 4

[Excerpts] Fernando Zegers, special ambassador for maritime and Antarctic affairs, yesterday announced that Chilean foreign policy will give the Antarctic priority treatment through more intense, coordinated action with the other member countries of the Antarctic Treaty.

Zegers left for Washington last night, where he will attend a preparatory meeting on the law on the exploitation of Antarctic mineral resources. This meeting, to be held at the State Department, will be attended by the treaty delegates who will discuss an official document between 18 and 29 January.

"According to the Foreign Ministry, our foreign policy regards the Antarctic issue as a top priority."

"We hope that the law on the exploitation of mineral resources, which will be compulsory and will allow their exploitation with safeguards for the Antarctic ecology, will be approved in 1984."

"This is an exceptional moment, and Chile wants to increase its international action and to strengthen its presence in the Antarctic. This year there are plans to go further inland, nearer the pole, and the first human groups -- that is, the first families that are going to live there -- will be established in February."

The ambassador pointed out that it is possible that General Fernando Matthei, commander in chief of the Chilean Air Force, will travel to the Teniente Marsh Base to see these families settle.

NEWSPAPER REPORTS ON MIR 'OPERATION RETURN'

PY311840 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 23 Jan 84 p C2

[Summary] "The current leaders of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] are Andres Pascal Allende, Hernan Aguilo Martinez, Nelson Gutierrez Yanez, Victor Toro Ramirez, Manuel Cebieses Donoso, Horacio Marotta Royman, Max Joel Marambio Rodriguez (former member of the Personal Friends Group, GAP, personal bodyguards of the late President Allende), Maria Isabel Ortega, Humberto Sotomayor Salas, Mario Zorrilla Fuenzalida, and Rene Valenzuela Vejas.

"According to investigations by EL MERCURIO, Andres Pascal Allende is the secretary general. He emerged as an activist of violence in Concepcion in the 1960's and is now residing abroad. He is in charge of political and cell activities. He travels from Spain to Cuba, the Soviet Union, France, or other nations. He has been seen in the company of Fidel Castro and Luis Corvalan, and he has contacts with the Mitterrand government. He collects funds for the movement and its 'Operation Return.'"

It is said that Hernan Aguilo Martinez might be in Chile now.

Nelson Gutierrez Yanez, and Rene Valenzuela Vejas are now in charge of "Operation Return."

Of 11 subversives who have entered Chile under arrangements made by "Operation Return," 6 have been killed in clashes with police forces or bomb explosions, and the others have been arrested in the wake of terrorist acts.

Juan Elias Espinoza Parra, nom de guerre Yuri, in 1975 went to the GDR as a political exile. He returned surreptitiously to Chile and died on 29 December 1983 in a clash on the corner of Andes and General Barboza Streets.

Andres Nicolas Galanakis Tapia entered the country secretly and was arrested on 28 December 1983. Weapons and explosives that he kept in a house at 8071 Jose Zapiola Street, La Reina, were seized.

Hugo Jorge Marchant Moya entered the country undercover. He is charged with participating in the killing of General Carol Urzua. He drove one of the support vehicles and was in charge of the explosives. He is now being tried by a military court.

Lucia Orfilia Vergara traveled abroad as an exile and returned secretly. She died in a clash on Fuente Ovejuna Street on 7 September 1983.

Jorge Palma Donoso went to Europe as an exile. He underwent guerrilla training in Cuba in 1979-80. He surreptitiously entered Chile in August 1980 and is now being prosecuted for the assassination of General Carol Urzua.

Arturo Jorge Villavela Araujo, code name "Cono Aguilar," a militant in the MIR main force, left the country as an exile in 1977. He secretly returned to Chile 4 years ago. He was killed in a confrontation with the police on Janequeo Street, Quinta Normal, on 7 September 1983.

Danilo Wilfredo Quezada Capetillo, after being prosecuted by a military court in Antofagasta for violation of the Arms and Explosives Control Law, traveled abroad and then returned secretly to Chile. He died in a clash with security forces on 11 February 1983 as he was carrying 40 kg of explosives to blow up the Renaca and Vina del Mar power pylons.

German Anibal Osorio Perez took asylum in the Mexican Embassy on 22 November 1973 and returned to Chile 4 years ago. He died during a clash in front of a house at 169 Villaseca Street on 19 April 1983.

Manuel Genaro Flores Duran went to France as an exile in 1974 and secretly returned in 1981. He was killed along with Osorio Perez.

Carlos Rene Diaz Caceres traveled to Norway as an exile on 2 November 1976 and returned in the same way as the others. He died on 30 September 1982 when a bomb he was carrying went off in front of a house at 2480 El Vogel Street, Providencia.

Victor Hernan Maturana Burgos was sentenced to 18 years in prison in October 1973 by a War Council in Temuco. His sentence was commuted to exile on 15 December 1975. He went to Canada on 19 January 1976 and returned clandestinely in 1981. He was seriously wounded on 30 October 1982 when a bomb carried by another subversive went off on Vergel Street.

"The extremist-communist plan known as 'Operation Return,' which was revealed by the government some time ago, has again come to light with the case of the four persons, two of them women, who have sought asylum in the Santiago Apostolic Nunciature."

Bases for recruitment and support are said to exist in Libya, France, Spain, Sweden, Algeria, and Cuba.

After training abroad, terrorists are routed through Czechoslovakia, then France or Spain, and ultimately Peru or Argentina.

As an example of the careful training given to these terrorists, the case of Jose Miguel Benado Mendvisky is cited: "Carrying false documents, he passed himself off as an Argentine by using expressions commonly used in the neighboring country, including an Argentina accent. He confessed that he had learned them by practicing with a tape recorder and cassettes."

The list of arms used by the subversives include Soviet AK rifles, P25 submachine guns, throwaway bazookas, rocket launchers, Belgian FAL rifles, and short, large caliber arms (45, 38, and 99 mm).

The objective of the "Operation Return" is to invigorate the subversive movement in Chile.

MIR's Foreign Contacts

PY311620 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 23 Jan 84 p C 2

[Excerpts] A vast international network managed by the Soviet Union and Cuba to promote terrorism and subversion includes the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) in Chile. Training for and financing of terrorist actions are provided in several countries. For instance, it has been learned that the MIR has an External Secretariat headed by Rene Valenzuela Vejas in Paris, France. Military training and political indoctrination of cadres who will operate in Chile are provided in Cuba.

It has also been learned that an Agitation and Propaganda Center of the MIR External Committee is functioning in Mexico, and that an office to provide support for subversives in prison for perpetrating terrorist acts is operating in Venezuela.

What are said to be "very good" relations have been detected to exist between MIR and the Argentine Revolutionary Workers Party, which cooperate with one another in the political and military activities that they carry on in each country.

Other information available says that the MIR also has outside connections through the Revolutionary Coordinating Junta which met in Argentina in February 1974. The participants in that meeting were the Revolutionary Workers Party and the People's Revolutionary Army (both of Argentina); the National Liberation Movement and Tupamaros (both of Uruguay); the MIR (Chile); and the National Liberation Army (Bolivia).

CARABINEROS OFFICER SHOT BY 'TERRORIST'

PY311334 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The Carabineros' officer who was shot by a terrorist was not seriously injured. This new attack against a policeman took place yesterday at the corner of 5 de Abril and (Lodre Rasuri) Streets in the Maipu neighborhood where officer (Bernabe Cisqueira Saenz), who belongs to the Carabineros Hospital unit, was attacked.

The hooded subversive surprised the officer by shooting him in the back of his right thigh. Despite the wound the officer was able to fire his service revolver several times at his fleeing attacker. The wounded officer was taken to the Carabineros Hospital where the bullet was removed. Police and security forces are investigating the attack to locate the subversive who fired at the officer, and also to find out about the other terrorists, who were presumably involved in the attack.

JEWISH DEMONSTRATORS ARRESTED IN SANTIAGO

PY311743 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] A demonstration was held by Jews in front of La Moneda Palace. The leader of the demonstrators and four agitators were arrested. The group, primarily made up of foreigners and including only two Chileans, was taken to the First Carabineros Precinct in Santiago where their identification was checked. The five individuals were then released on bail.

Before their release they were taken to a Santiago court where they were accused of creating disorder. The group included Beate Klarsfeld, a German citizen; (Carolina Veronica Krebish Selgestine), Chilean; and (Peter Hellman), a U.S. citizen.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 1615 GMT on 31 January reports that Beate Klarsfeld was arrested today in Santiago for heading a demonstration in front of La Moneda Palace demanding the expulsion of former Nazi Colonel Walter Rauff.]

BRIEFS

NEW PRODEN PRESIDENT -- (Engelberto Frias) has been appointed president of the National Development Project, PRODEN, replacing Jorge Lavandero, who is on leave of absence.

[Text] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 19 Jan 84 PY]

1983 FOREIGN INVESTMENTS -- The Central Bank has reported that foreign investments in Chile during 1983 totaled over \$182 million. The main investments were in industry, mining, services, and agriculture, in that order. The remaining investments were in transportation, construction, and forestry. [Summary] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 20 Jan 84 PY]

MARITIME CONFEDERATION CREATED -- The Maritime Confederation of Chile has been created. The confederation is made up of 28 union organizations and is headed by Eduardo Rios. The purpose of the organization, which represents 5,000 maritime workers of various unions, including those employed by private firms, is to attain the unity of all Chilean maritime workers. [Text] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 18 Jan 84 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER ON STONE VISIT, CONTADORA GROUP

PA310354 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Richard Stone, U.S. roving ambassador for Central America, today announced that the United States does not fully agree with the procedures followed by the Contadora Group but agrees with most of its points.

Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo believes it is normal to have differences between U.S. policy and that of the Contadora Group. He explained, however, that the important thing is that there is a certain concurrence in the search for peace in Central America.

President Betancur this morning met with Ambassador Stone, who was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador to the OAS William Middendorf and several officials of the embassy here. Issues connected with the current Contadora Group procedure and the dialogues currently underway in the Central American countries were reviewed. They also discussed possible definitions regarding Latin America's participation in the OAS.

Upon leaving the meeting, Foreign Minister Lloreda Caicedo said: We are moving closer to peace in Central America. He added that a very dynamic process is currently underway, creating great expectations in the region.

Commenting on Stone's statement on partial U.S. support for the Contadora Group, he said: It is not surprising that U.S. officials, as with the Kissinger report, should establish differences between the U.S. and the Group's policies. It is obvious that these differences exist. The important thing is that there is concurrence regarding the pacification policy and the search for democratic solutions in Central America. These points of concurrence must be taken advantage of.

[Begin recording] [Lloreda Caicedo] The Contadora Group has its own procedures, its own focus, and naturally it develops its activities autonomously. This (?visit) is part of the effort that Ambassador Stone is making on behalf of his government. He is a U.S. Government representative, and he is taking his own steps, making his own contacts. We think it useful that Ambassador Stone periodically contacts the Contadora Group presidents and ministers, so there is no dismembering of the peace efforts because, in the end, we are all pursuing goals that in many ways coincide. This is partly why it might be surprising to see a U.S. Government official -- as well as the Kissinger report -- very clearly establishing a difference between the U.S. policy and that of the Contadora Group. Differences obviously exist, must exist, and have always existed. What is important is that there are points of concurrence with regard to the goal of pacification and the search for democratic solutions for Central America. We must take advantage of these points of concurrence, but there is no doubt that the methods and even the opinions held by the Contadora Group may in many ways not agree with the official U.S. policy.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, Ambassador Stone has said he is not in favor of the U.S. Government fully supporting the Contadora Group's points, and he said that he trusts in honest dialogue but not in international policies such as the withdrawal of military advisers.

Could this distort the Contadora Group effort, since it is one of the basic points for peace in Central America?

[Lloreda Caicedo] What is happening is that the United States has not discarded a possible military solution, and the Group insists that any military solution must be

discarded, not only by the United States but also by the USSR and Cuba. There is a difference in this regard, and it is a difference on which full agreement has not been reached; but the Contadora Group has its points of view, it maintains them and defends them, and the United States has its own. The United States has a reason for saying that there is an awareness of the need for an internal reconciliation process in all of the countries. This is one of the aspects to which the Contadora Group has also referred. But regarding other aspects that have been mentioned, there have been and there will probably continue to be differences in criteria, which so far have not been overcome.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, when the president of the European Parliament visited Colombia he discarded the possibility of a U.S. military intervention in the Central American area, and he also said that in view of the coming elections in the United States this would not be well received by the people, since President Reagan is seeking reelection. Yesterday, President Reagan announced his bid for reelection. What is the situation? Does this danger still exist in the Central American area?

[Lloreda Caicedo] Officially, the United States has not discarded the possibility of an intervention in the area, and has clearly stated that it will continue to offer military support to the countries whose governments are closest to its policies. But the European parliamentarian was right when he said that the pre-electoral season in any country is not a favorable time for certain decisions that could be controversial, and this could be a positive factor at this time so that the efforts that we are making through diplomatic means can advance more rapidly. By the same measure that the United States, the USSR, and Cuba support diplomatic means and move away from the military solution, we will come closer to peace. This is why we have tried to accelerate the Contadora Group process at this time; why the commissions will meet next week when the technical groups meet; why we set this deadline for the commissions' work; and why we have spoken of the measures that have to be taken. While the commission members sit at the table, we must also accelerate other processes. Therefore, I think there will be a great deal of dynamism in the coming months at the diplomatic sessions that are underway, and there is obviously a great deal of interest over the internal processes that could (?be carried out) in El Salvador, in Nicaragua, and in other countries. This year we are having a lot of activity on the Central American front.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, you have said that Central American peace approaches little by little, but doesn't the fact that the United States has not discarded a possible military invasion and a military solution in Central America move us away from achieving peace?

[Lloreda Caicedo] I have said, and maybe I should repeat, that in the measure that the United States, the USSR, and Cuba support diplomatic solutions and not military solutions, we will come closer and closer to peace in Central America. [end recording]

BETANCUR ON MEETING PANAMA'S NORIEGA, JOINT CANAL

PA311824 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0300 GMT 31 Jan 84

["Valdes at 10" program containing an interview with Colombian President Belisario Betancur by Guillermo Rodolfo Valdes and Escolastico Calvo; in Bogota, Colombia; date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Calvo] After meeting with General Noriega for 28 minutes, what is your impression of the meeting and of Gen Noriega?

[Betancur] It has been my pleasure and honor to know Gen Noriega for some time. During my marathon visits to Central America -- one of them made in the honorable company of President Ricardo de la Espriella -- I had the opportunity to meet Gen Noriega in Panama City. I have also met with him here in Bogota. I know about him, his honor, his ability, and his significance in Panama's recent history and in the activities carried out by that great man who is now a part of history, General Torrijos.

Our meeting included a cordial review of subjects concerning Panama and Colombia in the area of reciprocal cooperation.

[Valdes] Mr President, could you mention some of the topics that you discussed?

[Betancur] Yes, of course. We talked about cultural exchanges, about commercial complementation, and about common problems like the fight against drugs, which isn't the same in Panama as it is here, but which may also take on sinister characteristics there. Naturally, we talked about the repression of contraband and about the possibility of complementing our actions, as well as the need to do so, in order to find ways to further expand our cultural and commercial exchanges. We also spoke of ways to fight drugs and the drug traffic and about means of repressing contraband.

[Valdes] Mr President, we do not want to take too much of your time, but there is a question that we wanted to ask right from the outset. There has been a great deal of talk and there are frequent publications about the possibility of building a Colombian-Panamanian canal. What is your view of this?

[Betancur] That is a beautiful idea. I myself have toured the possible route. As you know, the Colombian Atrato River, which is in the Choco area near the border with Panama, is one of the regions with the greatest amount of rainfall in the entire world. It joins other rivers in the area -- the (Baldo) River, for instance -- and that route has been under study for some time here in Colombia. More recently, a new route has been discovered, not for a national or exclusively Colombian canal, but for a potential binational canal, a Panamanian-Colombian canal. If one sails the Atrato River from the Gulf of Uraba in Darien to the Cacarica River, and then sails this river, one comes across a depression in the western mountain range of the Andes. According to geologic studies and pre-studies that have been conducted, it would be very easy, with today's technology, to [words indistinct] and to connect the Cacarica River with the Tuira River, which flows into the Pacific Ocean from the Gulf of San Miguel. I have flown over this route and one can see the binational canal. It is a beautiful project, a splendid dream. I think that in the near future it might help the Panama Canal, in terms of the traffic of heavy ships, by diverting smaller ships to this new route. It is a known fact, -- Panamanians know this very well -- that any ship passing through the locks displaces the same amount of water, whether the ship is big or small. Well, if the smaller ships are diverted to this binational canal, the use of the Panama Canal would be much greater and, therefore, the profitability, in terms of the interests of both Panama and the Panamanian people would be much greater. There is an understanding between the Panamanian and Colombian engineers' societies, which are currently conducting studies and doing research. That is where we are now. Nothing has yet been defined at the governmental level.

NAVY ACQUIRES MISSILE-EQUIPPED CORVETTES

PA310419 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 25 Jan 84 p 5-A

[From "The Watch" column by Daniel Samper Pizano: "Showing Off Missiles"]

[Excerpts] Almost without realizing it, while some generals fell and others were promoted, Colombia entered into the missile age. The christening of the corvette "Almirante Padilla" last Saturday marks a qualitative step forward in our national defense capability. For the first time in the history of our country, Colombia has self-directed or teledirected rockets capable of finding and destroying a target, as compared to the classic artillery which is incapable of modifying its course.

Since Saturday our National Navy has been in possession of eight Exocet missiles, famous since their use in the Malvinas war, which have been installed on the "Almirante Padilla." These are the first missiles in the history of the Colombian Navy. In the next 6 months, three corvettes of the same class as the one that cruises the Caribbean waters will arrive, which will mean that the country will then have 32 MM-40 missiles capable of pursuing an objective electromagnetically. Additionally, each corvette has antiaircraft cannons; sophisticated radar, sonar, and communications equipment; and a patrol helicopter.

The president of the republic has made it clear that with this acquisition Colombia has not made another move in the arms race, but has taken a step for its own defense. The Navy high command has noted that the Navy's equipment had been among the most obsolete in South America (after Bolivia), and that the four corvettes will only serve to show that we are not completely unarmed.

The spectacular Exocets that Colombia has had on its territorial waters since last week are of the sea-to-sea type; Argentina's were of the air-to-sea type. Both types are designed for great naval battles, to sink destroyers and destroy battleships. However, none of them has served to chase away the Japanese and U.S. fishing boats. These -- our true enemies -- are not a bit impressed by the fact that we have entered the missile age.

LARGE-SCALE ANTIGUERRILLA OPERATION IN MAGDALENA

PA292116 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Bucaramanga, Colombia -- The largest-scale antiguerrilla operation ever is currently underway in a large area of Middle Magdalena. Its purpose is to surround a large column of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, which yesterday clashed violently with regular troops, killing a noncommissioned officer and injuring at least four soldiers. Nine guerrillas were killed in the clash, which lasted from 0300 until almost 0700. The guerrillas also fired at the military helicopter in which General Faruk Yanine Diaz was traveling. Yesterday, only a few hours later, a second insurgent group appeared near Cerro Grande, where seven soldiers died last week in a surprise attack. According to reliable sources, Gen Yanine Diaz has reported the public order situation to the president of the republic. The situation is regarded as delicate.

UN COMMISSION TO STUDY NATIONAL STATE OF SIEGE

PY312045 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0445 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Geneva, Switzerland, 30 Jan (EFE) -- The UN Human Rights Commission will study a draft resolution requesting the lifting of the state of siege in Paraguay.

The Subcommission for the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities has drafted a resolution that will be submitted to the UN Human Rights Commission, which will hold its annual session from 6 February to 16 March in Geneva. The state of siege has been in force in Paraguay since 1954; it is renewed every 3 months.

The draft resolution requests the Paraguayan Government to lift the state of siege, since it is the main cause of human rights violations.

Raimundo Careaga, an opposition leader and member of the Febrerista Revolutionary Party [PRF], is in Geneva to testify before the commission and to try to plan the return of some 400 Paraguayans who are presently residing in Europe. Careaga told EFE that "the entire nation is against the (Alfredo) Stroessner military regime. But a popular insurrection is virtually impossible, because the government would have foreign support to repress it."

OLD MOPOCO ATTEMPTS TO KILL STROESSNER REVEALED

PY010005 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 28 Jan 84 p 11

[Text] During a confidential meeting held by the Colorado Party Government Junta on 11 January 1984, Investigations Department Chief Pastor Coronel, in his capacity as a junta member, discussed the presence of MOPOCO [Colorado Popular Movement] members in Paraguay.

During the session, which was presided over by Dr Juan Ramon Chaves, Coronel charged that some MOPOCO members were involved in an alleged attempt on the life of President Alfredo Stroessner and other government officials. The attack was to take place in 1974. Coronel also charged that Epifanio Mendez Fleitas, the leader of a dissident movement within the Colorado Party, was involved in another alleged terrorist plot that was to have taken place the same year.

Pastor Coronel said that during his 16 years as Investigations Department chief he not only received copies of booklets and leaflets issued by MOPOCO, but he also learned about "plans to stage ferocious attacks against the president of the republic and against distinguished party leaders."

He reported that the attempt on the life of President Stroessner was to have taken place by the end of 1974, and that the police learned about it through Jose Olmedo Montania, who lived in Itaugua.

Coronel explained that Montania was Alejandro Stumpfs Mendoza's main contact, and that Dr Agustin Goiburru, Anibal Abatte Soley, Rodolfo Mongelos, and Pedro Cabral were also involved in the terrorist plot. Both Stumpfs and Abatte Soley arrived in Asuncion during the return operation staged by MOPOCO, but they left a few days ago.

Pastor Coronel also reported that the weapons and bombs "were sent from Posadas to Foz de Iguacu by Agustin Goiburu; Abatte Soley had them sent to Asuncion hidden inside merchandise shipments," taking into account that he is an exporter.

The Investigations Department chief recalled that "a people's jail was discovered in the Las Rosas neighborhood, close to the 10 km signpost marking in San Lorenzo," and that "it is still there and can be visited by anyone who desires."

According to Pastor Coronel, "a bomb was to have been detonated in the Plaza Uruguay as the president and other high-ranking government officials passed." He said that the bomb was so powerful that it would have wiped out the entire square of the railway station. He explained that the plan failed on two occasions.

Coronel remarked that a third attempt had been set for 14 May, when thousands of students were forming up at the Plaza Uruguay before a parade. He said that the plan was aborted thanks to the detention of a group of terrorists who were members of the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP); "They were sent by Goiburu, who finally turned out to be the Posadas ERP regional chief," Coronel said. He explained that for this reason "the Argentine Government adopted measures against Goiburu."

Coronel stated that another attack against the president was to be staged on 14 August 1974 by some foreigners who were caught with their machine guns by Navy personnel. He gave assurances that this plan was "designed and sponsored" by Epifanio Mendez Fleitas, "who according to one of the executors of the plan, asked that the president of the republic and architect Thomas Romero Pereira be caught alive so that they may be later placed on a grill over live coals."

He also reported that on 13 May 1975, a group of people who came from Argentina and who were planning to stage an attack on the life of Uruguayan President Juan Bordaberry were arrested. Bordaberry was at that time visiting our country. Coronel concluded by saying: "I am giving the most important details to my fellow party members, so that they may know that these MOPOCO leaders are not innocent babes."

ABC COLOR tried to interview Pastor Coronel yesterday to clarify some of his statements, which were made public through a booklet issued by the Government Junta under the title "The Truth That Must Be Known -- Official Report by the Honorable Government Junta." The booklet also carries the speeches delivered by other junta members during the confidential meeting held on 11 January.

Vicente Ruben Aguilar, the chief of the Public Relations Section of the Investigations Department, informed ABC COLOR that Pastor Coronel would grant no interviews on the matter. He said, however, that the speech that Coronel delivered during the confidential meeting held by the junta can be published. Parts of his speech are included in this article.

MOPOCO Rejects Charges

PY302200 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 29 Jan 84 p 15

[Text] The Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO) yesterday emphatically rejected the charge made by Pastor Coronel, chief of the Police Investigations Department, that it was involved in alleged plans to kill President General Alfredo Stroessner and other national authorities.

On this subject, MOPOCO issued the following communique: "In view of the publication in the newspaper ABC COLOR on 28 January of paragraphs of a report issued by the chief of the Investigations Department to the executive board of the official sector of the Colorado Party, in which members of our political organization are charged with alleged attempts to carry out terrorist acts, our executive board hereby informs the public and our fellow partisans of the following:

"1. In view of the distortion of the democratic principles of the Colorado Party, the Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO), since its foundation has based its civic actions on teaching the doctrine and seeking to rescue the party's autonomy through dialogue and the exercise of its internal freedom, since these are the only alternatives to return to our political party, its role in the country's activities. This clear behavior, which has not changed despite the fact that it has endured cruel persecution and all types of injustice and offense, has obviously always banned the use of violence as a political practice.

"2. The MOPOCO emphatically rejects the rash charge made by the chief of the Investigations Department that, more than anything, reveals the official suspicious tendency to involve our organization or its members in activities that later on may serve as an excuse to justify new repression in view of the fact that the prestige of our organization grows uncontrollably and the presence and claims, with a high moral content, strengthen in the conscience of the majority of the Colorado Party members."

During the closed-door meeting held by the Colorado Party Junta on 11 January, Pastor Coronel stated that Alejandro Stumpfs, Agustin Goiburu (missing), Anibal Abatte, and Rodolfo Mongelos (MOPOCO leaders), and Epifanio Mendez Fleitas had been involved in alleged terrorist attacks that had been thwarted by the police forces.

National Accord Condemns Attacks

PY311124 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 29 Jan 84 p 15

[Text] The National Accord yesterday expressed its solidarity with the leaders of the Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO) in view of the harsh slander campaign that "some official Colorado Party personalities and organizations are conducting against them." This is included in a communique that the National Accord has issued on this subject.

Among other things, the communique notes that "in view of the slander of MOPOCO leaders who have returned to our country after a long exile," the National Accord has decided to express the following:

That MOPOCO leaders have returned to the country "free of hate, and with a spirit open to dialogue for the purpose of seeking solutions to the problems affecting the country. Their thinking and conduct is well known and they are maintaining the best Colorado Party traditions. They are here to support those Paraguayans who are striving to achieve the democratization of the country through the enforcement of the freedoms, rights, and guarantees that are inherent to a democratic republican system."

It adds that "the rudeness of certain speeches and statements issued by Colorado Party personalities and organizations are an offense against us as members of a civilized community. The hatred and the effort to incite violence resulting from these statements are evidence of their political short-sightedness and of their incapacity to solve national problems in a calm, unselfish, and patriotic way."

It notes that the political parties that make up the National Accord "reassert their solidarity with the MOPOCO leaders and note that their unselfishness in leaving their personal interests to return to Paraguay is an exemplary attitude. The National Accord also categorically rejects the slander campaign being conducted by certain sectors of the regime that are docile tools of a fading, dying dictatorship. Moreover, it urges the citizens to be calm and to reject the coarse provocations issued by the deserters of democracy and of a national coexistence within the framework of the law." The National Accord statement is signed by Euclides Acevedo, acting president of the National Accord.

PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES ELECTIONS FOR 31 MARCH 1985

PY311756 Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0705 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] President Fernando Belaunde yesterday announced that the Peruvian general elections will be held on 31 March next year. He said that the election date is being moved up to give more time for the vote count and, if necessary, for a runoff election if no absolute majority is achieved.

INTERIOR MINISTER REPORTS ON STUDENT DISTURBANCESEvaluates Arrests

PY311515 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca today disclosed that out of the 185 persons arrested during the student disturbances last week, 67 had nothing to do with the student claims and that 1 person is associated with terrorism. During a press conference given at Government House after a (?cabinet meeting), Percovich Roca termed as false the press report of police abuse on the university grounds in an operation to recover the vehicles taken by students. Regarding the arrested students, the minister said:

[Begin Percovich recording] First of all, I would like to report on the evaluation we made about the students arrested as a result of the disorders which took place during last week's demonstration. Out of the 185 persons arrested, 138 of them have already been placed at the disposal of the courts. Of these, 38 will be called for questioning, 7 minors have been handed over to their parents, 1 person has been put at the disposal of DIRECOTE [Antiterrorist Division of PIP] because of his ties with terrorism, and another person has been put at the disposal of the judicial branch because there is legal action against him. [end recording]

Emphasizes Law, Order

PY311541 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca has said that the law will be enforced to maintain order throughout the country. He added that the government is concerned about the concerted actions of sectors attempting to create a situation of unjustified violence.

He said that his ministry will use all legal means in accordance with the Constitution and prevailing legal rules to ensure order and tranquillity. He added: The government's moderation should not be confused with weakness because the government intends to enforce every legal means at the appropriate time -- even the suspension of guarantees.

Explains Arrest of French Nun

PY311521 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca has reported the arrest of a French nun for alleged links with the Shining Path terrorist organization.

The nun has been identified as Ann Marie Cabarrin (Tabason), 41 years of age. She was arrested by the police (along) with another eight alleged participants in the attack on the (Jose Santos Chocano) agrarian cooperative in Cajabamba, south of Cajamarca.

Percovich added that the police found explosives, red flags bearing the hammer and sickle, and pamphlets with the heading: The Revolution Is Justified; Let Us Carry Out Guerilla Warfare.

POLICE REPORTEDLY BREAK UP TERRORIST CELL

PY261808 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 1245 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] According to sources close to the police, a terrorist cell, that was planning a large-scale subversive plot to take advantage of the recent university incidents has reportedly been broken up.

Reliable sources reported that the detainees were in possession of Civil Guard uniforms and handguns which they had taken from the police. They also had operation plans for their scheduled actions.

Apparently, the subversives were planning to use the firearms to shoot at university students.

They reportedly sought to cause a large number of casualties among the university students during their marches.

Lima's prefectorship, which was to report on this Machiavellian plot, abruptly canceled a press conference scheduled for last night.

SHINING PATH REPORTEDLY TRIES, EXECUTES 18

PY310250 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0126 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Lima, 29 Jan (EFE) -- It was disclosed today in Lima that a total of 18 persons have been murdered by alleged terrorists of the Maoist group "Shining Path" in several towns of Ayacucho Department.

The subversives murdered 16 of the victims in Ocros, La Mar Province, where they were subjected to a "peoples trial" on the charge of cooperation with the police. The victims were shot to death after they had been tried. The newspaper LA REPUBLICA today reported that the event, still not officially confirmed, took place at dawn last Thursday, when some 50 hooded men carrying firearms entered Ocros and dragged the peasants out of their homes to murder them.

In the meantime, the police reported in Ayacucho, 575 km southeast Lima, that Francisco Villacreces, president of the Handicraft and Weavers Association, was murdered by eight members of the "Shining Path" group in front of his family.

Graciela Coros, also in Ayacucho, reported that she had found the bullet-riddled body of her husband Bernabe Palomine.

PRESS ON REAGAN'S REELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

FL311750 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1630 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican press today noted that U.S. President Ronald Reagan's decision to seek reelection to another 4-year term will endanger world peace and aggravate the nuclear dispute between the superpowers.

The daily EL UNIVERSO stated that last Sunday's announcement by the former movie actor is linked to near unanimous worldwide pessimism about the possibilities for peace in the world in the next few years. The paper said that the assessment of the 3-year-old Republican administration is positive on the economy, with the reduction of the U.S. inflation rate, but extremely negative on foreign policy.

The paper concludes that the actions taken by Reagan in the Middle East and Central America, two areas of the world in conflict, and the deployment of missiles in Western Europe demonstrate the mistakes of his hard-line policy, which has only aggravated the international crisis.

The newspaper EL DIA points out that Reagan has become involved in serious controversies with minority groups as a consequence of a policy that only distinguishes between good and bad, much like Hollywood cinematography.

MEXICAN PROFESSIONALS LEAVE TO HELP NICARAGUA

FL310249 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0130 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The United States will not be able to intervene in Nicaragua so long as international support favors Nicaragua, Nicaraguan Ambassador Mauricio Cuadra stated today. He added that despite the constant aggressions of the U.S. Government aimed at overthrowing the Sandinist junta, several brigades of professionals from all over the world have been arriving in Nicaragua since 1978 to assist its reconstruction.

Interviewed at the capital's airport, the diplomat noted that the Mexican people have always been on the side of the Nicaraguans. Now they will physically be there as part of the Mexican Araceli Perez Arias Brigade, which departed for Managua to struggle honorably in a mission of peace directed at raising Nicaragua's productivity.

The Mexican brigade bears the name of a Nicaraguan internationalist who died in Managua in 1977, a victim of the Somozist troops. It has 48 members, 18 of whom are women, of such professions as engineering, veterinary medicine, anthropology, and several branches of technology.

The members of this pacifist brigade, which was seen off by the diplomat, belong to the Group in Solidarity With the Nicaraguan People, which has also organized the Hands Off Nicaragua Committee.

Those 48 volunteers will remain in Nicaragua 6 months, working with the people in various areas of social and productive benefit, like other brigades from Colombia, the Netherlands, and the United States which have already arrived.

SAN JOSE PACT OIL STATISTICS REPORTED BY SEMIP

FL312055 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1830 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican authorities have reported that Mexico supplied 55,348,000 barrels of oil to countries in Central America and the Caribbean during the first 3 years of the San Jose Pact.

In a statement that the Secretariat of Energy, Mines, and Parastate Industry (SEMIP) issued to the press, it was stressed that the oil Mexico supplied to beneficiaries of the agreement, was valued at \$1,782,300,000.

Figures calculated up to 15 November 1983 indicate that the medium-term credits granted through the San Jose Pact over a period of 3 years rose to \$411.6 million.

The agreement, established by Mexico and Venezuela, provided that 80 percent of the petroleum invoice had to be paid in cash and 20 percent of it in short- and long-term credits. Both nations supply up to 160,000 barrels of oil per day to countries in Central America and the Caribbean.

The communique indicated that in the first years that the San Jose Pact was in effect, 70 percent of the petroleum invoice could be paid in cash and the remaining 30 percent through credits.

One of the objectives sought through the agreement was support for the Caribbean Multi-national Shipping Company, by using its ships for oil transportation. But the document concluded, this has not been possible and foreign companies have had to be contracted.

1983 TRADE SURPLUS WITH AUSTRIA REPORTED

FL312226 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1917 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico recorded a surplus of \$79 million in the 1983 balance of trade with Austria, Austrian diplomatic sources have announced. During the first 11 months of 1983, Austria imported from Mexico a total of 14.3 billion pesos (some \$86 million) worth of goods, while in the same period it exported 1.3 billion pesos (around \$7 million).

Austria sold Mexico machinery, raw material for the chemical industry, and equipment for education, Helmut Wagner, Austria's commercial representative, indicated. He stated that the parastatal enterprise Mexican Petroleum sold \$74 million worth of crude oil to the Austrian OEMW Petroleum Corporation.

COMMUNIST LEADER SEEKS ELECTORAL ALLIANCE

PA312027 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 31 Jan 84 pp 32, 33

[Text] The secretary general of the People's Party [PdP], in a meeting held in Panama City this weekend to report to its mid-level leadership, said: "No electoral agreement has yet been reached among the forces that have taken part in the national liberation process for the past 14 years. An agreement is essential if the PdP is to choose presidential and vice presidential candidates for presentation at the national convention slated for the end of February." Ruben Dario Souza added: "Our proposal -- which includes the creation of an alliance revolving around democracy and the rescue of our natural resources and sovereignty, as well as a commitment to improve our political, economic, and cultural situation -- is based on scientific principles, and it has been tested by all of the events experienced in our country since 1968." To clarify his statement, Souza said: "In other words, we, the Panamanian Communists, make a historic commitment to continue perfecting the Torrijist ideals, which have brought independence, well-being, and respect to the country, and to pursue with renewed intensity the effort of honest Panamanians to eradicate all acts of corruption, which the Panamanian workers view with great indignation, both within and outside the process itself."

Cleto Souza, Electoral Activities Section

PAPER CITES BARLETTA'S DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PA310153 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 28 Jan 84 p B-10

[Excerpts] Editor's note: As a contribution to the national dialogue, Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta [vice president of the World Bank and a possible presidential candidate] has prepared a plan for Panama's integral development in the current decade, in which he proposes four main objectives, namely A) integral development with dynamic economic growth; B) effective culmination of the political system's democratization; C) strengthening of the public institutions by properly establishing their functions; and D) a foreign policy consistent with our national interests. We publish these objectives in a search for unity of purpose and a national consensus -- within a diversity of opinions, but with a spirit of conciliation -- and to stimulate dialogue within the community, with the participation of everyone, to achieve this unity. We have chosen Chapter 3 on strengthening public institutions and the proper establishment of their functions, and we are presenting it in the classic interview format to facilitate its reading and make its message available to readers of all cultural levels:

[Unidentified reporter] How would you attain the strengthening of the public institutions and the proper establishment of their functions?

[Barletta] "The community and the time in which the nation is living require an efficient, responsible, and honest public administration. The scandals of corruption that have shaken the community, such as the Social Security case, have created distrust and anxiety in the entire population. This state of affairs is dangerous because it disperses and destroys the energies of the community, making the people doubt their country, its institutions, and its future, as well as the system of values that rules us as a nation."

[Reporter] Dr Barletta, what do you think would be your most delicate problem?

[Barletta] "It is clear that one of the most delicate problems of this decade is the handling of public funds, and particularly the servicing of the public debt. This involves great discipline in the control of public expenditures, and the careful definition of priorities for expenditures and investments. The individual needs of public sectors and institutions cannot be viewed separately from the necessary limit on the total public expenditures."

[Reporter] How would you organize your government system?

[Barletta] "The most modern, stable, and powerful countries have organized their government systems in such a way as to have plenty of stability and autonomy in the administrative execution of political decisions."

[Reporter] How would you achieve this?

[Barletta] "This has been done by separating public posts charged with the defining and making of policy decisions from the administrative posts charged with the study and execution of such decisions. In this manner, governments are reelected on the basis of popular mandate, as are those who make the political decisions, but the state retains the ability to execute and administer the programs through high-level career officials with defined responsibilities and the obligation to execute decisions."

[Reporter] Do you believe this is the best system?

[Barletta] "None of these systems is perfect, but they are better than systems that view as political positions those that are actually administrative positions, and we can learn something from them. Panama has advanced in that direction, and the plan for national development to be adopted for the rest of this decade will require the continued improvement of public administration, adapting new experiences to our circumstances and idiosyncrasies."

[Reporter] What do you think of the Defense Forces?

[Barletta] "Our military institution has continued to develop a desirable professionalism, favorable to our national interests. The former National Guard, now the Defense Forces, proved its ability to handle national security in a competent and patriotic way, and its growing professionalism will help its effectiveness in maintaining the nation's territorial integrity."

[Reporter] What role did our armed forces play in the national liberation movement, how do you see their withdrawal from politics, and, finally, what about their role in the joint defense of the Panama Canal?

[Barletta] "The support offered by the Defense Forces in the difficult period of negotiations and ratification of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties deserves the lasting recognition of the community, and their decision to withdraw from participating in civilian government deserves the support of every Panamanian. The task of gradually preparing to participate in the defense and security of the Panama Canal -- now jointly, and later by themselves -- is of great importance to the nation and will require the continued professionalism of the military institution in the present decade and beyond."

[Reporter] What would be the role of the Defense Forces in your civilian government?

[Barletta] "An institutionally strengthened civil government coupled with a very professional and institutionalized Defense Force is essential for the country to maintain peace and security and strengthen the overall development of Panama."

CONTADORA GROUP MEETINGS HELD IN PANAMA

Work Commissions

PA010040 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The Contadora Group has just issued a press bulletin that states the following:

At 1500 today, the work commissions for security affairs, political affairs, and economic and social affairs, formed by representatives from the five Central American countries and the four countries of the Contadora Group, were installed in compliance with the commitments made in the document called "Rules for the Execution of the Commitments Assumed in the Document of Objectives," approved by the Central American nations and those of the Contadora Group during the last meeting held in this city in the first week of January 1984, as a formula for achieving peace in the Central American region.

The work commissions will meet beginning today at a hotel in the city, and will have as their main objective the preparation of studies, juridical projects, and recommendations that will develop the areas of security affairs, political affairs, and economic and social affairs, as well as proposals for the verification and control of compliance with the measures adopted. These studies, juridical projects, and recommendations will be presented at a joint meeting of foreign ministers no later than 30 April 1984.

The formal installation of the work commissions was made by the deputy foreign ministers of the Contadora Group countries -- Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela, and Panama -- along with the deputy foreign ministers of the five Central American countries -- Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua.

Beginning very early this morning, the deputy foreign ministers met privately to arrange the procedures for the installation of the three work commissions formed by delegations from the Contadora Group countries and the five Central American nations.

Deputy Foreign Ministers

PA010205 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] This afternoon the Contadora Group deputy foreign ministers began a technical level meeting at the Washington Room of the El Panama Hotel, with the main objective of putting into effect the document for the execution of the Contadora Group agreements, approved at the ministerial level at the end of 1983 with the participation of the Central American governments.

At the meeting initiated today in Panama, which will only last 2 days, the only participants will be the deputy foreign ministers of Panama, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela, who will be accompanied by technical teams from their respective countries. Also represented on the technical level are the Central American governments. The only female deputy foreign minister of the area attending the meetings is that of Nicaragua. The technical groups will be divided into work commissions, which will adopt concrete recommendations, since the basic document states definite terms for its application.

COSTA RICAGOVERNMENT DENIES ENTRY TO PASTORA ARDE FIGHTERS

Security Council Session Held

PA311740 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1659 GMT 31 Jan 84

[By Wilfredo Chacon S.]

[Excerpt] San Jose, 31 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Costa Rican Government today announced that it will not admit the hundreds of former fighters who arrived in this country last week and who were attached to Eden Pastora, Commander Cero, into its territory.

The Security Council held a special session last night to review the problem created by over 1,000 members of the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) who "peacefully invaded" Costa Rica's border area.

Three groups of 200 people each began an exodus toward Costa Rica and arrived last week near the mouth of the San Carlos River, a branch of the San Juan River on the border. An additional 500 people arrived last weekend, alleging that they lacked weapons with which to fight, according to Eden Pastora.

In short, the government has made the final decision, announced today in this capital, not to admit these former Nicaraguan fighters into the country. In the case of those who are already in Costa Rica, an order has been issued that their cases be reviewed individually, so that only those who qualify as refugees will be allowed to remain in the country. All others will be expelled to some friendly country that might accept them.

The authorities will study the situation involving the women and children who accompany the ARDE peasants and, depending on the various cases, they will be relocated in refugee centers in the Atlantic and northern parts of the country.

According to Justice Minister Hugo Alfonso Munoz, the government views the arrival of ARDE's anti-Sandinists as a political problem for which a solution must be sought.

For his part, Vice President Armando Arauz Aguilar, who coordinates the Security Council, claims that although the ARDE militants cannot be sent back to Nicaragua, they should not remain in Costa Rica as refugees, because they are not refugees.

Meanwhile, the opinion of the deputies at the Legislative Assembly has become divided, since some claim that the anti-Sandinists deserve official support for humanitarian reasons, while others allege that this might compromise the neutrality proclaimed by the government.

Statement Issued

PA010130 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2350 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] San Jose, 31 Jan (DPA) -- The Costa Rican Government today issued a statement in which it clearly stated that "it will not permit the entry of Commander Eden Pastora's guerrillas into Costa Rican territory."

At noon Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez issued a statement on behalf of the National Security Council. It includes the following points:

1. Costa Rica reiterates to the world its policy of neutrality on the armed conflicts in the neighboring nations and its firm determination to prevent the use of the national territory as an operations base for persons or organizations involved in the Nicaraguan war.
2. The events in the border zone in recent days (the handing over of Nicaraguans to be admitted as refugees by Costa Rica) prove that Eden Pastora is not in Costa Rican territory, since the guerrilla leader came from Nicaraguan territory by crossing the San Juan River into Costa Rica. The San Juan is a border river.
3. The officer of the Costa Rican rural guard who met with Pastora at the mouth of the San Carlos River on Sunday did so against the orders of the government and will be punished with dismissal.
4. Pastora's announcement that he will disarm 2,000 more members of his troops and that he will turn those Nicaraguans over to the Costa Rican authorities in the border region, as well as the possible arrival of those guerrillas in the national territory, are extremely serious events that require a clear definition of the policy to be followed.
5. The guerrillas or former guerrillas cannot be described as refugees. Their legal situation in accordance with international law is essentially different and must be regulated by what is established in the Havana Convention on the "rights and duties of states in the case of civil struggles, which establishes that all rebel forces that cross borders must be disarmed and interned [internar] and that the expenses for the internment must be paid by the state where order has been disrupted. [no closing quotation mark as received]
6. Therefore, if the mass arrival of Nicaraguans occurs as Pastora has announced, the status of refugees will be granted to those persons who fall under the terms established by the UN Convention dealing with this subject, and action on the former guerrillas will be taken in accordance with the Havana Convention.
7. Once the temporary internment of the former guerrillas has been carried out, the necessary direct efforts will be undertaken with friendly countries and with the international community through the International Migration Committee [Comite Internacional de Migraciones -- CIM] so that the former guerrillas will leave the Central American area as soon as possible, dispersing them in such a way that prevents their return to the struggle and the possibility of endangering Costa Rica's neutrality.

In addition to this Security Council statement, Foreign Minister Gutierrez indicated that "those who qualify as refugees will be taken to the Limon and Tilaran camps in Guanacaste Province."

Threat to Security Cited

PA310446 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] According to Costa Rican Justice Minister Hugo Alfonso Munoz, the Nicaraguans who are entering the country after being turned over by ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] forces could represent a danger to the country's security. They could represent a danger if the immigration office does not give them the status of refugees but rather that of irregulars. If they are not placed under the status of refugees, then the National Security Council will have to decide on the measures to be enforced. It could decide not to accept them, or if their entry is permitted they could then be deported. According to Dr Munoz, this would be impossible because no country would accept them.

Dr Hugo Alfonso Munoz added that even if the Nicaraguans were not accepted they might still enter through various areas of the border, since there are not enough Costa Rican guards to cover the whole border area.

Therefore, in the face of this massive entry of Nicaraguans, the specific measures to be followed will involve placing them under the protection of the civil or rural guard in areas where their activities would not endanger Costa Rican security, its international relations, or its neutrality policy. Dr Munoz added that today CONAPARE [National Commission for Refugees] officials visited the border area to decide on the legal status of the people awaiting acceptance by our country.

Meanwhile, Dr Hugo Alfonso Munoz said he does not believe that the Costa Rican Government has opened a communications channel with Eden Pastora. He said that such a situation is not allowed, and talks with belligerent organizations that affect the situation of neighboring countries cannot be accepted. He added that Costa Rica's only obligation is to provide humanitarian aid, because there are international commitments regarding this. But he stressed there is no authorization to begin talks with rebel forces from any country.

PVP CONGRESS TO 'REINSTATE' VALVERDE IN OFFICE

PA312013 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 18 Jan 84 p 4

[Report by Victor Hugo Vargas]

[Excerpts] The Popular Vanguard Party's (PVP) National Assembly, presided over by Manuel Mora Valverde, will call an extraordinary congress of that political movement on 10 March "to purge it" and to reinstate Mora Valverde in the general secretariat, a source close to his family has confided to this newspaper. -

The announcement was immediately refuted by PVP parliamentary leader Arnoldo Ferreto, who asserted that it "will be no congress, merely a fraudulent assembly."

He added that prior to this resolution, unsuccessful attempts were made to reconcile the viewpoints on Mora Valverde's replacement as secretary general. It has even been rumored that Humberto Vargas, who has served as secretary general since December, told Mora Valverde that he is willing to resign if the party's unity could be achieved as a result.

It has been learned, however, that the offer was turned down because the old communist leader doesn't see the problem as involving individuals, but political lines.

On another subject, Cesar Solano, the dismissed secretary general of the Vanguardist Youth, said at a news conference yesterday that his removal last Sunday was illegitimate. "The dissident group created the central political committee illegally, because they never had the number of members required for that purpose," he said.

Ana Hidalgo, who made a statement last Monday in her role as the new secretary general, said that a total of 16 Vanguardist Youth members had agreed to remove Salano and 4 other leaders.

EL SALVADORSHULTZ VISIT PREVIEWED BY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

PA312303 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 31 Jan 84 pp 2, 31

[Excerpts] "I am sure the U.S. Government will respect the Salvadoran people's decision resulting from the presidential elections.

"The visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will have positive results. I believe so, "Francisco Jose Guerrero, presidential candidate for the National Conciliation Party, PCN, told EL DIARIO DE HOY.

"We think that the visits of senior officials of the Reagan administration to our country are always favorable, since their concepts of the Central American situation, particularly that of El Salvador, have been affected by the vast campaign in the international press against our country, and in favor of Soviet expansionism."

Hugo Barrera, vice presidential candidate for the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, made the above statement for EL DIARIO DE HOY, regarding the visit to our country of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

"I said it is favorable because we all know of the great problems we are facing to secure the military aid we need in order to fulfill our Armed Forces' tasks. These problems stem from totally negative opinions that prevail both in the State Department and in the U.S. Congress. Definitely, Shultz' visit will enable him to have a clearer picture, since his conclusions will be drawn directly from the site of the incidents -- so to say -- and not from the crooked U.S. press, as before "

"The arrival of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz follows the publication of the bipartisan Kissinger commission's report," Rene Fortin Magana, presidential candidate for the Democratic Action Party, noted.

Fortin Magana added that he believes that a visit by a top official of Shultz' stature is favorable, just, and positive.

Fortin Margana went on, saying that the "U.S. position of supporting whichever government wins in the March elections without showing favoritism for any particular candidate is commendable, as this means that the decision made by the Salvadoran people at the polls in clean and honest elections will be respected."

EL DIARIO DE HOY also interviewed Francisco Quinonez Avila, presidential candidate for the Salvadoran Popular Party, regarding the arrival of Shultz in our country.

Quinonez Avila said: "George Shultz comes to reinforce the democratization process that the Salvadoran people want and seek. His visit also supports the electoral result that our people need: honest and clean elections."

In giving his opinion about the fact that the United States will support whichever party wins in the March elections, Quinonez said that this is a positive way to show that the United States is giving the country the support it needs, both in the economic and military aspects.

MAGANA SAYS MEETING WITH SHULTZ 'FRANK, POSITIVE'

PA010246 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0213 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] San Salvador, 31 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana has said he was "very pleased" with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' visit, and he said the meeting with him was "very productive."

In a telephone conversation with ACAN-EFE, Magana added that he had "a very frank exchange of impressions on the coming elections" with Shultz, and added that the meeting had been very positive.

George Shultz visited San Salvador for 9 hours to meet with the highest authorities of the nation and the presidential candidates who are competing in the 25 March 1984 elections.

Magana denied that during this visit they had analyzed details on the amount of economic and military assistance that the United States is giving to El Salvador.

"They have their proposals before Congress on certain amounts which, depending on the matter in question, have been agreed upon by the technical representatives of the two countries," Magana told ACAN-EFE.

Magana denied that his government had received new pressure from the United States concerning its policy on violence of the extreme right. "If what worries the United States in defending their policy toward us coincides with the efforts of my government, I believe there will be no pressure," added the president.

On 11 December 1983 U.S. Vice President George Bush said on a visit to El Salvador that the United States might find it "difficult" to continue giving support to El Salvador unless progress was made in the struggle against the violence of the extreme right.

Nevertheless, Magana added: "There have been changes since Bush's visit. Bush came at a time when there was a resurgence of the 'death squads,' including threats against bishops; but now everything has been quiet for almost a month." According to police and military sources, Vice President Bush gave the Salvadoran authorities a list with the names of several Army officers who should be transferred to posts abroad due to their possible connections with the extreme right.

The list also included several civilians whom the United States wanted expelled from the country. The Army has reported the transfer of at least three officers, but the fate of the other persons on the "black list" is not known. Apparently the list contained some 20 names.

FMLN'S HANDAL STATEMENTS CAUSING 'CONCERN'

PA311216 San Salvador Radio Cadena YKL in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] The secretary general of the Salvadoran Communist Party has said that they control a third of the national territory and that they have progressed in the war. In his latest statement, Jorge Shafick Handal made other claims, denied by the Armed Forces Press Committee, to the effect that the FMLN guerrillas control a third of the nation's territory.

What does cause concern, according to political observers who were consulted in the last few hours by Sunday News Focus [name of program], is Communist Party secretary's statement that the guerrillas will continue their national activities before, during, and after the elections, that they reject the recently approved Constitution outright, and that they will not recognize the winner of the 25 March elections.

PLANS UNDER WAY FOR 'WORLD SOLIDARITY WEEK'

PA311250 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 30 Jan 84 p 3

[Text] "The First Week of World Solidarity With El Salvador," which hopes to break the barrier of misinformation that the Marxist forces have constructed around the reality of Salvadoran life, will be held in March. This was announced in a bulletin issued by the International Association of Friends of El Salvador.

The first Week of World Solidarity With El Salvador will be held 19-23 March, and all of the world's anticommunist organizations will participate, according to spokesmen of the association.

The activities to be held throughout the world for the Salvadoran cause, said organizers of the event, will include the dispatch of letters by participants to the various information media in their respective countries to emphasize the cruel and inhuman situation to which the Salvadoran people continue to be subjected; demands of the authorities; the organization of mass demonstrations against international subversion; radio and television lecturers; the publication of solidarity declarations; and other actions that the International Association of Friends of El Salvador member organizations consider appropriate to inform the world of the cause for which El Salvador is struggling, thereby establishing a world awareness, so that El Salvador will not fall into communist hands.

The preparations for the worldwide solidarity event with El Salvador are well under way. The event will unquestionably have repercussions throughout the world, the organizers said.

ARMY CLAIMS 26 FMLN CASUALTIES IN EASTERN CLASHES

PA312229 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Press bulletin issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, in San Salvador; no date given]

[Text] A total of 26 FMLN extremists were killed yesterday in the eastern part of the country, when Air Force support units of the 3d Infantry Brigade and the San Francisco Gotera Commando Training Center staged surprise attacks on columns of extremists near (Sitio Los Argueta), Sesori jurisdiction, in San Miguel Department. Twelve extremists were killed.

Meanwhile, near El Tablon, Sociedad jurisdiction, in the eastern Department of Morazan, 11 terrorists were killed during a surprise attack by Salvadoran troops.

In addition, three other extremists died in the vicinity of Jucuapa, Usulután Department, during clashes with troops of the 3d Infantry Brigade, who recovered two M-16 rifles.

The Army suffered no casualties in these actions.

FARABUNDO MARTI SLAMS SHULTZ-STONE VISIT

PA312201 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] At about 1020 today, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in our country accompanied by a well-known figure, Mr Richard Stone, the Reagan government's alleged ambassador of peace who has only shown he is ambassador of war and terror. Shultz and Stone, key figures in Reagan's policy toward Central America and specifically toward our country, have arrived in San Salvador as a pair of comedians whose role this time is to talk about human rights.

They were welcomed by Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena, another member of imperialism's political reserve, who has not wanted to become a has-been with the discredited [former President] Napoleon Duarte and instead has preferred to remain as a backup to be used at the right moment by the Gringos.

They were also welcomed by Thomas Pickering, U.S. ambassador in our country, who has refused to publish the names of the military men who are the leaders of the death squads and who has refused to hear the demands of the mothers of the political prisoners and the missing.

Shultz met with his cronies at Comalapa airport, and from the moment of his arrival he began to play his role in the human rights comedy. Shultz said he opposes the terror and violence of totalitarianism and the death squads, but his words are hard to believe because his government is financing and advising the biggest genocidal criminals in this country. The dictatorship's Army, the Army of this regime of 3 years of an uninterrupted state of siege, is responsible for persecution, torture, massacre, bombings, and artillery attacks on peasant towns in El Salvador.

At this time, Shultz is probably embracing the directors of the slaughter, [President Alvaro] Magana, Chavez Mena, [Defense Minister General], Vides Casanova, and other criminals, in the presidential house. At the moment of the toast today, Shultz will scold those who are getting out of line, harming Ronald Reagan's political campaign. But the weapons, airplanes, and ammunition will continue to arrive so that the military men's repression of our people can continue. Mr Shultz will make a blood toast to human rights in El Salvador. We reject George Shultz' presence in our country. We demand a halt to the Reagan government's aid to the Magana dictatorship. All the people to oppose the imperialist intervention until victory!

Deplores Reagan Candidacy

PA312309 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The nightmare of a world involved in a war does not seem to be over yet in view of Ronald Reagan's decision to once again be a U.S. presidential candidate. Three years ago, the world uneasily watched how Ronald Reagan surrounded himself with reactionary individuals and how every step he took turned him more aggressive and dangerous. Three years since he came to office, the world is experiencing a very critical situation, in which despite its rabid behavior the United States is not faring very well.

Three years after taking office, Reagan has betrayed the pillars of his political campaign. He promised peace in the world, but the U.S. war machine is in action and Ronald Reagan's aggressiveness is only continuing to provoke wars and more wars. Reagan offered to revive patriotism, but he has only encouraged a warmongering hysteria to drag the North Americans to defend the interests of the big millionaires who own the arms industry.

Reagan spoke of helping neighboring countries and we, his neighbors, can say that everything would be better if the Yankees did not have their hands in our internal affairs.

The wheel of time cannot turn back due to the adventures of an irresponsible government like the one headed by Ronald Reagan. The U.S. people must not let themselves be led to the hell of war by the madness of an individual like Reagan. There is a new awareness in broad sectors of the U.S. people. We appeal to them so that they will not let Ronald Reagan continue to behave like a real bandit in the international arena.

VENCEREMOS CITES CRITICS OF REAGAN CANDIDACY

PA311210 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has announced in a televised message that he will seek reelection, which has prompted diverse reactions at both the national and international levels.

Thomas O'Neill, Democratic majority leader at the U.S. Congress, said that the U.S. people will reject Reagan's reelection, as it would mean 4 more years of suffering and danger. O'Neill accused Reagan of dividing the U.S. people into the rich and the poor.

Meanwhile, Walter Mondale, the strongest presidential aspirant from the Democratic Party, strongly criticized Reagan's policies, both domestic and foreign. He added that Reagan is not as strong as many people believe, and that when it comes to weapons, Reagan acts like a child in a candy shop. Today's world is increasingly dangerous, Mondale stressed.

The rightist press in the United Kingdom received the announcement of Reagan's decision to seek reelection without enthusiasm. The Liberal press attacked and criticized him, while a Conservative -- this is to say, a rightist -- member of the British Parliament said: If I were a U.S. citizen, I would vote for the Democrats this time.

There was a unanimous reaction in our own country. All of the participants in the electoral farce, the candidates for the six parties that are participating in the election, were very happy and congratulated themselves at the announcement.

Reagan is the most demented president that the United States has had. It is he who financed and supported a genocidal army that (?directs) the death squads, which are responsible for the death of more than 40,000 Salvadorans.

PRTC LEADER DELIVERS ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE

PA311430 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Message to the people from "Companera Arlen," leader of the FMLN's Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers, PRTC, from "a guerrilla camp on the Modesto Ramirez Central Front" on 28 January -- recorded]

[Text] I would like to send a warm salute today to the Salvadoran people, to the Central American people, especially our brothers from the FMLN historical vanguard; to our brothers, the PRTC militants and candidates, to the rank and file of the FARLP [Peoples Liberation Revolutionary Armed Forces] and to the MSP [Peoples Liberation Movement] and, finally, to all other FMLN members as we mark this festive day on which we celebrate the eighth anniversary of our party's founding.

Looking back, we can say that we are carrying out the task that we set for ourselves 8 years ago. We can say that it has been difficult to correct our mistakes. [words indistinct] our past, and consolidate our accomplishments. We can report that we have tried to aid the construction of the FMLN historical vanguard throughout these years, particularly in the past few years, in which we have bolstered our rank and file -- both the armed groups and the masses -- and the party's structure [13-second break in transmission] Comrades Luis Adalberto Diaz and Humberto Mendoza.

They have been a contribution, a partial payment for the cost of the work of the vanguard. We are willing to continue fulfilling our commitment during this time of war. We hope the war will be short and will reach a prompt resolution. However, we also reiterate our commitment to continue struggling as long as necessary -- to renew and seek strength from whatever source the people allow. We will go as far as the people allow to build an egalitarian society of man and for man.

At the Central American level, our groups has been joining efforts with other PRTC member organizations, with which we are united today in celebration of these group's commitment to a single mission.

There is total willingness within the PRTC to move gradually toward the establishment of a single FMLN party. We have given all our support at all structural levels, because we are willing to continue as a closed fist, as a single FMLN fist, with which to inflict blows on our enemies.

FARABUNDO MARTI: HONDURAS BOMBS CHALATENANGO

PA310422 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] This afternoon five Push-and-Pull [in English] planes carried out a psychological warfare operation against the civilian population of Chalatenango Department. In our noon broadcast we reported that this morning five planes that came from Honduras carried out aggressive maneuvers over Chalatenango. At 1400 this afternoon the five planes returned and all five launched rockets in the vicinity of the towns of La Lagu Ojos de Agua, and El Jicaro, in Chalatenango Department.

The planes fired their rockets and left, only to return minutes later to launch another round of rockets. These planes flew in wide circles, and one after the other dove at different places to launch their deadly devices in the vicinity of the towns, with the clear objective of spreading terror and making a show of force prior to the arrival in our country of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

We denounce these activities that criminally terrorize our people, and we call on the civilian population to dig trenches to protect themselves from the enemy air attacks.

VENCEREMOS REPORTS BOMBING OF SEVERAL CANTONS

PA311258 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The dictatorship's Air Force, using U.S.-made A-37 Dragonfly planes, have perpetrated yet another massacre of our people. Attention here is a report we have received from Chalatenango Department: At 0700 on Saturday, 28 January, American A-37 Dragonfly planes dropped their American bombs on the following cantons: La Joya, El Carrizal, Montecillos, (Hacienda Penalapa), and Los Naranjos, in the jurisdiction of the municipalities of Nueva Concepcion and Santa Rosa, in the departments of Chalatenango and Santa Ana, inflicting several casualties among the civilian population in the village of (Argueta). The casualties of this new bombing ordered by criminal Colonel Bustillo, include Mrs Rina Argueta and her five children, all of whom were killed in this criminal action.

We repeat, Mrs Argueta, a pregnant woman, and her five children were all killed in this action, in (Tilin), in the village of (Argueta). Once again, the dictatorship has sent planes delivered by Ronald Reagan to massacre our people.

Only a few days ago, Bustillo's bombs were dropped on the civilian population of Carolina. Now, just a few days later, this criminal action has been repeated in the Departments of Chalatenango and Santa Ana.

Once again we urge our people to supply the FMLN with the address, other information and details about the habits of these criminal pilots, because our people are everywhere and sooner or later they will punish Bustillo and the dictatorship's criminal pilots.

GUATEMALA

EDITORIAL ASSAILS PRESS BAN AT PALACE MEETING

PA311723 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Editorial: "Embarrassing Incident at the National Palace"]

[Text] It is embarrassing but unavoidable to touch upon an incident that occurred on Friday at the National Palace during a special meeting called by Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran. The meeting was supposedly called to inform the diplomatic corps accredited in Guatemala about the political opening that is beginning to take place in Guatemala for the purpose of returning constitutional rule to the country soon.

Unfortunately, the announcement of the political opening was accompanied by a totally contradictory action, since the press was barred from the National Palace's Protocol Room, where the meeting was to take place.

Worse, this totally undemocratic show of force was undertaken at the initiative of the Yankee gendarmes who act as U.S. Ambassador Frederic Chapin's bodyguards, and who, according to the daily EL IMPARCIAL, forgot that they were not at the State Department or in the U.S. Embassy.

Looking at the incident from this viewpoint -- and there really is no other way of looking at it -- it was a violation of freedom of expression and an insult to the Guatemalan press by foreigners, because we are not yet, nor do we ever expect to be a colonial enclave, agency, or protectorate of the United States, as is unfortunately the case with a neighboring country.

Once cannot speak of a democratic opening when freedom of information is denied, when the press is denied coverage of an act of protocol of international significance, and worse, when inside the palace itself, which is the seat and symbol of Guatemalan sovereignty, foreigners allow themselves such liberties. This is not petty nonsense, [babosadas] to use the term that the U.S. ambassador has popularized. Our dignity is at stake!

ANDRADE LAUDS U.S. CONGRESS HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

PA312232 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The U.S. Congress recently issued a report indicating that there have been favorable changes in human rights in Guatemala in recent months. Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran, in expressing his satisfaction, said that the U.S. Congressional report represents a positive change toward Guatemala on human rights, despite sectarian interests that have persisted in trying to damage the country's image abroad.

ELECTORAL LAW DECREE PROVISIONS DETAILED

PA281652 Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 19 Jan 84 pp 2365-2370

[Law Decree No 3-84, taken from the supplement "Official Publication of the Republic of Guatemala"; boldface as published]

[Text] THE HEAD OF STATE

CONSIDERING

That the present government of the Republic, which is a provisional regime, is irreversibly committed, as one of its primary and priority objectives, to compliance with the requirement established in the Basic Government Statute, namely, that the state should be guided toward the establishment of a constitutional regime resulting from popular elections;

CONSIDERING

That an institutional structure requires, through the provisions of a temporary law, the democratic establishment of a constituent authority as the representative organ of the people's will to draft and issue the Constitution of the Republic and the respective constitutional laws;

CONSIDERING

That for the purpose of establishing a National Constituent Assembly, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal prepared a draft law, which was made known to various organizations, including the political organizations that are accredited with the proper electoral body, and, since such objections as were considered beneficial to the interests of the nation have been taken into account, it is now appropriate to promulgate that law.

THEREFORE

Exercising the powers conferred upon him by Articles 4 and 5 of the Basic Government Statute, as modified by Decree Laws No. 36-82 and 87-83,

IN A MEETING OF THE CABINET

DECREES the following:

SPECIFIC ELECTORAL LAW FOR THE ELECTION OF THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

TITLE I

BASIC PRINCIPLES

SOLE CHAPTER

ARTICLE 1. (OBJECTIVE) The present law establishes the rules regulating the election of the National Constituent Assembly.

This election will be called by the head of state within the 30 days following the date on which this Decree Law goes into effect and will take place on 1 July of the present year.

ARTICLE 2. (FUNCTIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY). The National Constituent Assembly will be responsible for decreeing the Constitution of the Republic and the following constitutional laws: the Electoral Law and the Law on Appeals, Habeas Corpus and Constitutionality. In addition, it will determine its own internal and budget structure, coordinating the latter with the Ministry of Public Finance so that the budget may be included in the General Budget of the Nation.

ARTICLE 3. (COMPOSITION OF THE ASSEMBLY). The National Constituent Assembly will be made up of 88 deputies of equal rank and with equal rights, who will be elected by the people as follows:

a. Twenty-three from national rolls proposed by each political party participating in the elections, in line with the provisions of Article 8 of this law.

Sixty-five by electoral districts, nominated on district lists or rolls, as follows: Metropolitan District of the Capital, 7 deputies; other municipalities of Guatemala Department, 5 deputies; San Marcos Department, 5 deputies; Quezaltenango Department, 4 deputies; Huehuetenango Department, 4 deputies; Escuintla Department, 3 deputies; El Quiche Department, 3 deputies; Alta Verapaz Department, 3 deputies; Jutiapa Department, 3 deputies; and the other 14 departments of the republic, 2 deputies each.

ARTICLE 4. (ALTERNATES). Definitive vacancies in the Assembly, whether resulting from death, absence, or some other cause, will be filled by calling up as a replacement the candidate who was next on the list of the candidate causing the vacancy.

In the event that the vacancy was from a district list and there is no immediate alternate, the replacement will be chosen from the national list of the corresponding party according to the relative numerical order of election.

If a vacancy cannot be filled by either of these two methods, it will remain vacant.

ARTICLE 5. (QUALIFICATIONS). An aspirant to the post of deputy of the National Constituent Assembly must be a citizen entitled to full political rights and must be able to read and write.

ARTICLE 6. (DISQUALIFICATIONS). The following may not be nominated for or elected as deputies of the National Constituent Assembly:

a. Citizens falling within the circumstances described in Article 117 of the Basic Government Statute;

b. Contractors of projects or ventures being financed with public funds, their co-signers, and those who have claims pending against said projects;

c. Immediate relatives, [parientes dentro de los grados de ley] of the head of state and his ministers, magistrates of the Supreme Court of Justice, and magistrates of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal;

d. Persons found guilty in a claims suit, [juicio de cuentas] who have not paid their debts.

- e. Persons falling within the terms of the final paragraph of Article 91 of the Basic Government Statute and any other military personnel on active duty;
- f. Legal representatives of corporations of individuals who exploit public services.
- g. Persons exercising jurisdiction or authority at the departmental level.

These disqualifications also apply to persons who have been in the listed situations within the 6 months prior to the date of the election.

ARTICLE 7. (IMMUNITIES). The deputies of the National Constituent Assembly are high-ranking dignitaries of the nation. As such, and for the exercise of their duties, from the day on which they are declared elected they will enjoy:

- a. Personal immunity, giving them freedom from arrest or trial unless the Assembly previously authorizes this or declares that there is cause for indictment, except when they are caught flagrante delicto, in which case they should be immediately brought before the Assembly for the appropriate hearing; and
- b. Freedom from liability for their opinions, their initiatives, and the manner in which they conduct transactions in the exercise of their duties.

The post of National Constituent Assembly deputy is compatible with the performance of temporary or special diplomatic missions, with the holding of nonpublic administration posts that have not been expressly banned, and with the practicing of professions.

ARTICLE 8. (NOMINATIONS). Only the political parties may nominate candidates to the Assembly by the system of national lists.

District deputies may be nominated by the political parties and by Civic Electoral Committees in the even specified by Article 115 of Decree Law 32-83.

Nominations by national list must be made on rolls numbered from 1 to 23 according to the number of deputies that the party desires to nominate. The list must be approved by the national assembly of the respective party in a plenary session by the procedure stipulated in the party by-laws.

Candidates to district nominations will be selected according to Article 11, Paragraph H; Article 22, Paragraph C; and Article 23, Paragraph C of Decree Law 32-83, in the case of political parties and according to Article 115 of the same law in the case of Civic Electoral Committees.

All nominations must be formalized by means of a request for inscription presented to the Civil Registry in the capital in the case of national lists or rolls for the Metropolitan District or Guatemala Department. In the case of district rolls from the other departments, the request must be presented to the appropriate Civil Registry branch in the department.

All requests for the inscription of candidates must be accompanied by a certified copy of the record of their nomination, as well as an acceptance statement from the candidates and a sworn statement that they meet the requirements of this law and that none of its disqualifications apply to them.

ARTICLE 9. (ELECTORAL SYSTEM). The election of deputies, whether from national lists or district rolls, will be carried out by the method of proportional representation described in Article 11, except when two deputies are to be elected, in which case the system established in Article 10 of this law will apply.

All awards will be made strictly in accordance with the order of the lists or rolls, beginning with the person who heads the list and continuing through those who follow him in strict order, according to the number of deputies won by those lists.

ARTICLE 10. (RELATIVE MAJORITY). In cases where two deputies are elected, the roll which wins the greatest number of votes will win both seats, unless the runner-up roll has obtained at least 60 percent of the number of votes won by the first roll, in which case the second seat will be awarded to the runner-up.

ARTICLE 11. (PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION). Under this system, which is applicable when three or more deputies are to be elected, the electoral results will be posted on a sheet with one line for each participating roll and several columns. In the first column, the number of valid votes won by each party will be posted; in the second column, that number divided by two; in the third, by three; in the fourth, by four; and so on as necessary for award purposes. The largest of these quantities will be selected according to the number of seats being disputed; that is, the number of disputed seats will determine the quantities chosen in order from the largest to the smallest. The smallest of these quantities will be the distribution factor, and each roll will be awarded the number of deputies resulting from dividing the votes that it obtained by the distribution factor, disregarding fractions.

ARTICLE 12. (INTERPRETATION). Any doubts regarding the application of the electoral system will be clarified or resolved by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal in resolutions or instructions dictated in accordance with its charter.

ARTICLE 13. (ON THE VOTE). The vote is a privilege of all Guatemalan citizens and an obligation for those citizens who are able to read and write, except those who are disqualified as indicated in Article 15. The vote is personal, universal, secret, and not transferable. Electors enjoy absolute freedom to cast their votes, and no one may compel them to cast it for any particular person, role, or party.

Citizens who are duly inscribed in the electoral registry will cast their votes in the municipalities stipulated in that registry. Citizens should inform the Civil Registry of a change of residence at least 30 days prior to the election date in order to be removed from one registry and included in the proper one.

ARTICLE 14. (DISPENSATIONS). The following are not obliged to vote:

- a. Citizens who are outside the national territory on election day;
- b. Those who cannot read and write;
- c. Those who are over 70 years of age; and
- d. Those who have some physical or other handicap that prevents them from voting in the judgment of the qualifying electoral authority.

Voting will be optional for those citizens to whom Paragraphs b, c and d of this article apply.

ARTICLE 15. (DISQUALIFICATIONS). The following may not exercise the right to vote:

- a. Citizens whose residence card [cedula de vecindad] was not duly recorded in an electoral census at least 30 days prior to the election date;
- b. Those who are on active duty in the Guatemalan Army or in the state security forces; and
- c. Those whose political rights have been suspended or who have lost their citizenship.

ARTICLE 16. (PREPARATION OF ELECTORAL REGISTRIES). An electoral registry will be prepared for each municipality in the Republic containing a list of citizens residing in the municipality according to a census taken in conformity with the respective law. The municipal registry will be identified with the code of the department and the municipality, one beside the other, stamped at the top of each page. The list of citizens will be strictly in order with the census numbers assigned to each one, given as line numbers, or will consist of photocopies of census records. These pages may also follow a continuous format, according to computer systems that may be adopted by the Civil Registry. Each municipal registry will have the necessary number of volumes according to the number of citizens listed in the census.

ARTICLE 17. (DEPARTMENTAL OR DISTRICT REGISTRIES). The electors of each department or electoral district make up the departmental or district registry, which is comprised of the registries of all the component municipalities. The capital of the Republic will be considered a single district with a single registry. The registry for Guatemala Department will consist of the registries of all the department's municipalities except for the capital.

ARTICLE 18. (STORAGE OF REGISTRIES). The electoral registries will be filed at the Civil Registry. Since they constitute the electoral lists of the Republic, they will be public documents and may be consulted by any person or organization.

If the computer system is used for the registries, the disks or capsules of the system will be its main nucleus [nucleo central] and will be kept at the Civil Registry under careful protection. They may be shown on the respective screens to anyone who so requests. Copies of them may also be made by the microfilm system.

ARTICLE 19. (VOTING BOOTH LISTS). Partial copies of the registries, by whatever technical method is adopted, will be used to make up lists for the voting boards that will function on election day in each municipal capital and in the capital of the Republic. The list of each board may not exceed 500 registered citizens.

No later than 20 days before the elections, the Civil Registry must have prepared the voting booth lists mentioned in this article, which should include all the citizens registered in the municipality. These voting lists must have spaces for the citizen to sign or, if he does not know how or is otherwise unable to sign, for him to impress the print of his right thumb or, lacking that, of some other finger.

Citizens who have registered after the period noted in Paragraph "A" of Article 15 of this law will not be able to vote in the elections because they will not be included on the list.

ARTICLE 20. (ELECTORAL PROPAGANDA). Everything related to electoral propaganda will be subject to the implementing regulations of this law that will be issued by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal and published in the Official Gazette.

In the area of propaganda, the regulations must conform to the following principles:

- a. The free expression of thoughts, with no limitation other than those prescribed by law.
- b. Freedom to hold political demonstrations for electoral purposes. However, it will not be permissible to hold public activities at the same date, time, and place as another candidate.
- c. Direct supervision by electoral authorities of activities related to electoral propaganda.
- d. Propaganda will be permitted from the day following the convocation to 0000 on the day before the elections.
- e. A ban on carrying out propaganda outside of the indicated period.
- f. Regulation of matters related to the placement of signs, announcements, banners, effigies and other means of propaganda in public places or places that are part of the natural environment.

ARTICLE 21. (SUPERVISION). The course of the electoral process will be supervised by the electoral bodies and the political organizations that participate in the elections as indicated in the regulations, subject to the provisions of the charter of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal or the Political Organizations Law.

ARTICLE 22. (INVALIDATION). Elections may be invalidated at the level of the voting board, or at the departmental or district levels.

Votes are annulled at the voting board level if the ballot box or bag containing the votes has been tampered with or when it is otherwise apparent that there has been falsification, coercion, alteration or threat to the members of the board or to the citizens in the course of the electoral process, or when any other act has been committed that could reasonably be assumed to have altered the results of the voting.

Departmental or district elections will be invalidated if more than one-third of the total number of voting booths in the department or district are invalidated.

ARTICLE 23. (SPECIAL INVALIDATION). Notwithstanding the rules contained in the preceding article, the Electoral Tribunal may invalidate the elections held in a particular municipality, department or district when, in accordance with rules of sound judgment, it is obvious that the freedom of the electors has been curtailed by actions that may have substantially altered the results of the elections.

ARTICLE 24. (REPETITION OF ELECTIONS). If the Supreme Electoral Tribunal declares the elections in one or more districts to be invalid, it will order repeat elections at the affected booths, in conformity with the provisions of this law on the date that the law stipulates, without need for a new convocation and without modification of the rolls presented for the first election.

The new elections will be duly announced in the respective municipalities and the new specific electoral summons will be published in the Official Gazette, as well as the provisions taken by the Tribunal to avoid a new invalidation. However, if certain booths are again invalidated, the Tribunal will validate the elections without taking those booths into account.

TITLE II

ELECTORAL PROCEDURES

CHAPTER I

PREPARATIONS FOR THE ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 25. (PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES). The electoral process begins with the convocation of elections and continues with the following activities prior to the elections: Inscription of candidates, preparation of documents and electoral equipment, establishment of electoral boards, and establishment of voting boards.

ARTICLE 26. (INSCRIPTION OF CANDIDATES). When a request for inscription has been received in conformity with Article 8, the Department of Political Organizations of the Civil Registry or the respective departmental branch of the registry, as applicable, will carefully review the request and remit it with comments to the Civil Registry director, who must issue a resolution within the following 8 working days.

If the resolution is negative, it will be possible to appeal to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal in conformity with Article 49 of Decree Law 30-83. If it is affirmative, the inscription will be formalized in the registry as established in Article 13, Paragraph D, point 3 of Decree Law 31-83.

All requests for inscription must be presented at least 2 months before the scheduled election date, and no citizen may be nominated as a candidate on more than one roll. The regulations will determine the other requirements and formalities, as well as the manner of proceeding in unforeseen cases.

ARTICLE 27. (THE RIGHT TO A HEARING). From the moment of their inscription, candidates for deputy may not be arrested or tried, unless an appellate court declares that there is justification for proceedings against them. An exception is a case of flagrante delicto, in which they may be arrested and must be immediately referred to the court having jurisdiction for it to decide whether or not proceedings are justifiable and, when applicable, to refer them to the respective judge.

If a hearing is deemed appropriate, the inscription of the respective candidate must be canceled, as long as there is justification for him to be held in custody for a crime meriting a prison sentence and for which release on bail is not applicable.

ARTICLE 28. (PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTS). The ballots to be used at each voting booth will be prepared in accordance with the regulations and must be printed in sufficient numbers to cover the number of registered electors.

The electoral books or records must contain a list of the citizens assigned to the respective voting booths with their corresponding identification and spaces for a signature or fingerprint, as well as forms at the beginning and end for recording the opening and closing of the voting and the vote count.

The political organizations participating in the elections may supervise the printing of the electoral papers in accordance with the provisions of the regulations.

ARTICLE 29. (ELECTORAL EQUIPMENT). Each electoral unit or voting board must have the furniture, equipment, and tools needed for the elections, as determined by the regulations.

ARTICLE 30. (NUMBER OF BOOTHS). No later than a month prior to the date of the elections, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, after receiving a report from the Civil Registry Director on the status of the census of citizens, will determine the number of electoral units or booths that will be installed in the capital and in each of the other municipalities of the Republic. The booths will be established only in municipal capitals, at places chosen by the Electoral Inspector in the capital, and by the respective municipal electoral boards in the other municipalities. They may not be established in villages, on farms or in rural areas.

ARTICLE 31. (ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTORAL BOARDS). Once the electoral boards have been organized in conformity with Articles 32 and 33 of the charter of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal and the respective posts have been screened by the Tribunal or by the electoral authority to which the Tribunal has delegated this authority, the boards will be considered formally established and the municipal boards will proceed to form voting boards in accordance with Chapter III of Title II of the same law. Mayors, who are ex-officio members of the municipal electoral boards, need not be subjected to such screening.

CHAPTER II

VOTING

ARTICLE 32. (OPENING AND CLOSING). Voting will begin at all the electoral booths at 0700 on the stipulated date and will end at 1900, except where there are still voters in line. At such booths, voting will continue until the last person who was in line before 1900 has voted. The members of the voting board and the political representatives who wish to do so will sign two records: one of the opening of the voting process and the other of the closing, which will also include the vote count.

ARTICLE 33. (THE VOTING PROCESS). The electors must appear personally and form lines. On arriving before the chairman of the voting board, they will present their residence cedula with the corresponding census mark. The chairman will consult the list and if the cedula has been duly recorded, the secretary will require that the citizen sign if he knows how to do so or, if not, that he place his fingerprint in the proper place in the electoral book. The secretary will place a mark on the cedula showing that the citizen has voted and will pass it to the chairman to be signed. Then the voter will be handed the ballots that have been duly signed and sealed by the chairman. Later, the elector will proceed to the area reserved for marking the ballots and will cast his vote by ticket without making any changes or modifications of any kind, and will later deposit them duly folded in the ballot or voting box. Finally, the other member of the voting board will return the cedula to the elector and will mark his right index finger, or lacking that, another finger, with indelible ink.

ARTICLE 34. (THE VOTE COUNT). Once the voting is over, the members of the voting board will proceed to open the ballot box and to count the votes, checking to see if they correspond to the number of voters and, when applicable, reporting any difference in the record. They will then proceed to count and record the number of votes cast for each ticket, those which are blank and those which are void. Any vote in which the chosen ticket is not clearly marked with an X, a circle, or another appropriate sign; which has selected from more than one ticket; or which has changes, or expressions, signs or figures that are alien to the voting process will be voided. Votes that are not cast on legitimate ballots or that were not assigned to that booth, and those that in any way reveal the identity of the voter, will also be voided.

Members of the voting board will resolve by majority matters related to the count, classification, and voiding of votes, in conformity with this article.

Supervisors from political parties or civic committees who are present may intervene and make whatever comments they feel are pertinent, and these will be recorded. Finally, the record will be signed by the members of the voting board and the supervisors who wish to sign it. The chairman of the board is obliged to deliver to those supervisors who request it the duly signed and sealed numerical results of the elections on forms authorized by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal.

ARTICLE 35. (FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURES). After the vote count, the voting boards, as well as the departmental and municipal electoral boards in turn, will follow the procedures indicated in Chapters II and III of Title II of Decree Law 30-83, where applicable, and the provisions of the implementing regulations of this law.

The electoral results must be made known to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal and the branches of the Civil Registry as soon as they have been verified by the municipal electoral boards, whether by telegraph, telephone, radio telephone, or any other means of communication. Those results must be immediately announced to the press and the public at the headquarters of the Electoral Tribunal, with the indication that they are provisional.

CHAPTER III

VALIDATION OF THE ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 36. (REVIEW OF THE VOTE COUNTS). Once the electoral records and documentation have been received by the respective Departmental Electoral Board, it will summon the supervisors of the political parties and civic committees, as well as the delegates of the Civil Registry and the Electoral Inspectors Office, to a meeting to proceed to review the vote counts carried out by the voting boards in that department. The meeting will be held no later than within the 5 days following the voting.

ARTICLE 37. (MECHANICS OF THE REVIEW). The review will take place at the branch office of the Civil Registry in a single session, which may be extended an extra day when the board deems it necessary. The board will decide on the number of ad honorem reviewers that it considers necessary, choosing citizens known to be honorable and competent and who reside in the departmental capital.

When the departmental electoral board and the reviewers have gathered at the stipulated date and time, they will proceed according to regulatory provisions to verify the status of the electoral bags and to read the pertinent parts of the voting records prepared at each of the booths. At the end of each reading, the supervisors of the political parties and civic committees will be heard, and if none of them expresses objections, the board will approve the record in question. However, if there should be challenges, the board will choose at random a reviewer who, in the presence of the challenger or challengers and other supervisors who wish to participate, will proceed to open the respective electoral bag and to investigate the merit of the challenge by examining the votes or by a total recount, if necessary, depending on the reason for the challenge. A record will be made of each review, noting the results and the modifications made to the vote count, if any, and will immediately be sent to the departmental electoral board.

At the end of the meeting this board will draw up the record of the meeting, stating: a) the results of the departmental vote in accordance with the count of the voting boards and the modifications introduced by the review, and b) the challenges of invalidation that have been presented by political parties and civic committees, with the reasoned opinion of the board regarding their merit.

This record, those drawn up by the reviewers, and the corresponding electoral books with their records will be immediately sent to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal through the means established by the regulation, leaving the equipment and furniture of the election under the care of the respective delegation of the Civil Registry, to be used in future elections. The ballots will be kept for 6 months by the delegation, and once this period expires they will be burned after a record is drawn up.

ARTICLE 38. (SPECIAL REVIEWS). In the district corresponding to the capital of the Republic, the voting boards will directly send to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal the records, electoral books, and ballots, the latter duly packed in the electoral bag. The documents dealing with the elections held in the rest of the municipalities of Guatemala Department will be sent to the Civil Registry.

In both cases, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal and the Civil Registry will proceed in accordance with article 37 of this law wherever applicable, with the exceptions set forth in the regulation.

ARTICLE 39. (FINAL RESOLUTIONS AND THEIR CONTENT). On the basis of the documents mentioned in the preceding articles, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal will issue the following resolutions: a) one related to the election of deputies by national lists, and b) one for each electoral district in the election for district deputies.

The resolutions will refer, in the first place, to the nullities alleged in the voting or those officially observed at the voting boards; those confirmed will be eliminated from the vote count. Should this nullity reach departmental level in accordance with Article 22, a repetition of the election shall be ordered in accordance with Article 24 of this law.

Except in this latter case, the resolution will declare the validity of the election in accordance with the established honesty of results.

ARTICLE 40. (VALIDITY OF THE ELECTION). Should it be resolved that the election is valid, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal will issue the corresponding declaration on behalf of those elected in accordance with Articles 10 and 11 of this law.

ARTICLE 41. (CHALLENGING THOSE ELECTED). Despite this declaration, any political party or civic committee that has participated in the election, or the Electoral Inspector, can challenge individually any of those elected for not meeting the requirements or for being included in the prohibitions established in Articles 5 and 6 of this law. The challenges can be introduced at the Supreme Electoral Tribunal as long as the National Constituent Assembly is not installed and operating, since in the latter case only this high-ranking body can decide what is allowable.

ARTICLE 42. (PROCEDURES FOR INTRODUCING CHALLENGES). Once a challenge has been introduced against an elected deputy for any of the reasons already indicated, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal will order it heard for a period of 3 days and with or without reply will collect evidence on the case for a period of 8 days, during which only documentary evidence will be accepted. This evidence can also be requested or collected ex officio, and a resolution will be handed down within the next 8 days. Should the resolution establish that the challenge is allowable, the election will be partially voided with relation to the individual affected and the respective alternate will be called to replace him.

ARTICLE 43. (APPEAL FOR REVIEW). An appeal for review of the resolutions issued by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal in matters regulated by this law can be filed as long as they are not appeals filed on matters that the Tribunal hears at a secondary level, which will not be admitted except for clarification or expansion.

The appeal for review will have to be filed within 3 days after the respective resolution has been announced, and the other interested parties will have an equal period to be heard. Only documentary proof will be admitted. It will have to be presented when the appeal is filed or when the respective hearings are held. It will be resolved by the Tribunal within 4 days after the hearings are held. A decision in a case of review cannot be appealed, except for recourse to protection [amparo] or suit for damages in cases provided by law.

CHAPTER IV

INSTALLATION OF THE ASSEMBLY

ARTICLE 44. (CREDENTIALS). After each election is certified and decided, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal will issue credentials, and from that moment they will be considered deputies elected to the National Constituent Assembly with the rights and immunities inherent to the post.

ARTICLE 45. (PROMULGATION OF RESULTS). As soon as the declarations of election have been issued and the corresponding posts have been awarded, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal will notify the head of state's office so that, through a decree-law, it will set the date, prior to 31 August 1984, for the solemn installation of the National Constituent Assembly.

ARTICLE 46. (INSTALLATION). The National Constituent Assembly will adopt the necessary measures for its adequate installation on the established date. It can hold the preparatory session or sessions it deems necessary to organize its board of directors and to swear in the deputies. The solemn inaugural session will be held in accordance with the ceremonial act decided on by the Assembly or its board of directors.

ARTICLE 47. (MESSAGE OF THE HEAD OF STATE). At the inaugural session, the Head of State will read his inauguration message, which will be followed by that of the President of the Assembly. The Assembly will then be definitely installed and in office.

TITLE III

FINAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER I

SANCTIONS

ARTICLE 48. (ELECTORAL CRIME). Electoral crimes are all those acts or omissions carried out to prevent, suspend, falsify, forge, or in any other way harm the electoral process or its results so as to unduly use them for personal benefit or that of a political organization or interests.

ARTICLE 49. (PARTIES TO THE CRIME). Electoral crimes can be committed by individuals, officials, or public employees.

Public employees or officials are those who participate in the electoral process in any official capacity, whether within the electoral organization or as agents or assistants of authority.

ARTICLE 50. (PENALTY). Those who commit electoral crimes will be punished with 6 months to 3 years imprisonment; but if the action also constitutes a crime specifically provided for in the Penal Code or any special law, Article 70 of that code will be applied. If the action was committed due to negligence, the penalty will be reduced by half, and it will be doubled if the action was committed with violence.

ARTICLE 51. (ACCESSORY PUNISHMENT). An accessory punishment for all electoral crimes will be disqualification from holding public post or employment, whether or not by popular election, for a period double that of the respective sentence, as well as disqualification from holding posts in political parties or organizations for the same period.

ARTICLE 52. (ELECTORAL MISDEMEANOR). Electoral misdemeanors are violations of this law or its regulations which are not common crimes or misdemeanors, as well as the non-fulfillment of civic-political obligations established in them or in other laws dealing with the electoral process. The Civil Registry in the capital and its delegates in the departments will be informed of the electoral misdemeanors.

ARTICLE 53. (PUNISHMENT OF MISDEMEANORS). The electoral misdemeanors not specifically penalized will be punished with fines of no less than 5 quetzales and no more than 100 quetzales in accordance with their seriousness and nature. The nonpayment of the fine will lead to an annotation in the respective registry of the responsible citizen which will not permit him to vote until he has paid it; and if it is a political party, the annotation will be made on its registration and it will have the effect of suspending it until the fine is duly paid.

ARTICLE 54. (VIOLATION OF OBLIGATORY SUFFRAGE). The citizens who, being obliged to do so, do not participate in the elections and do not cast a vote will be liable to pay a 5-quetzales fine which will be imposed by the Civil Registry in a collective manner, drawing up lists of those who are in such a situation in accordance with the electoral books used by the voting boards. The fine will be levied by mail through a letter addressed to the citizen offender to the address that appears in the respective registry. If it has not been paid within a month, an annotation will be made in the terms and effects established in Article 53 of this law.

ARTICLE 55. (NATURE OF THE MISDEMEANOR). No electoral misdemeanor can be compared to those defined in the Penal Code; therefore they will not require the intervention of a judge, nor will they result in a criminal record that will affect the offender.

ARTICLE 56. (DESTINATION OF FUNDS). The fines will be received by the electoral authorities appointed by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, and they will go to a special fund earmarked for extraordinary expenses.

CHAPTER II

OTHER PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 57. (PURCHASES AND CONTRACTS). The purchases and contracts that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal or its agencies must make due to the electoral process will be excluded from the process of public bidding, and the Presidency of the Tribunal will decide on the respective awards and contracts under the supervision of the electoral auditor and the Accounts Comptrollership.

ARTICLE 58. (COMMUNICATIONS). All public communication services must respect the provisions of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal with regard to information on the electoral results. The political parties and the civic committees can supervise the process of communication and information as needed to guarantee reliable data.

The social communications media will have free access to the sources of information as well as to all the acts and events related to the electoral process so they can carry out their informative work with full freedom.

ARTICLE 59. (PRIVILEGES). The Supreme Electoral Tribunal and its agencies and other electoral authorities established by the law, whether permanent or temporary, will have free postal, telegraph, and telephone privileges and will be exempt from the payment of tolls in all matters related to the electoral process.

ARTICLE 60. (PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION OF PARTIES). The committees for the formation of political parties that have fulfilled the requirements established by article 39 of Decree Law 32-83, and that have also presented their membership pages with a minimum of 4,000 members with duly legalized signatures and the charter of the party in the terms of article 49 of the same Decree Law, can, on their request, be provisionally registered as parties so that, without any other requirements, they can participate in the election of deputies, nominating and registering their respective candidates. The content of article 110 of Decree Law 32-83, Law of Political Organizations, will not be applicable to the parties thus registered.

ARTICLE 61. (VALIDITY). This law will enter into force the day following its publication in the Official Gazette.

ISSUED IN THE NATIONAL PALACE, in Guatemala City on 19 January 1984

TO BE PUBLISHED AND COMPLIED WITH

DIVISION GENERAL OSCAR HUMBERTO MEJIA VICTORES

Head of State and National Defense Minister; MANUEL DE JESUS GIRON TANCHEZ, secretary general of the Head of State's office; GUSTAVO ADOLFO LOPEZ SANDOVAL, government minister; FERNANDO ANDRADE DIAZ-DURAN, foreign relations minister; LEONEL HERNANDEZ CARDONA, economy minister; RODOLFO PERDOMO MENENDEZ, agriculture, livestock, and food minister; LUIS HUGO SOLARES AGUILAR, communications, transport, and public works minister; EUGENIA ISABEL TEJADA JAUREGUI DE PUTZEYS, education minister; LEONARDO FIGUEROA VILLATE, finance minister; J. RAMIRO RIVERA ALVAREZ, public health and social welfare minister; CARLOS PADILLA NATARENO, labor and social planning minister; S. ALEJANDRO CONTRERAS BONILLA, energy and mines minister.

HONDURAS

DIN CHIEF DENIES DEATH SQUAD ALLEGATIONS

PA311947 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Major Guillermo Pinel Calix, director of the Department of National Investigation, DIN, has denied a report by Jack Anderson, the famous U.S. columnist, to the effect that there are death squads, consisting of military and paramilitary personnel, in Honduras.

Luz Diaz has an exclusive report for the "This Very Day" newscast:

[Diaz] Major Guillermo Pinel Calix, DIN director, has expressed surprise at reports of the existence of a death squad in Honduras.

[Begin Pinel Calix recording] I was very surprised to read this in the daily TIEMPO. Based on reports from Honduran security agencies, I can assure you that we have no information indicating that there is such an organization.

Therefore, I can confidently assure the general public that there is no such organization in Honduras. [end recording]

[Diaz] The officer said that those reports are circulated by people who are interested in damaging Honduras' image.

[Begin Pinel Calix recording] Undoubtedly you, better than most, can tell that our country is currently the object of many discrediting rumors, and I believe that this is the reason for the publication of reports like this one. Everyone knows that Honduras is a truly democratic nation. [end recording]

ALVAREZ ON 'GRANADERA I,' RIFT WITH SUAZO

PA311536 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 Jan 84 p 5

[Excerpt] Division General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, has said that in the 2 years that he has been in command of that military institution he has fulfilled his plans, despite the country's economic limitations.

The high-ranking military man made this statement last weekend in the city of La Paz, where he accompanied President Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova at a ceremony celebrating the second anniversary of the constitutional government.

Asked about Dr Suazo Cordova's work, he said that although the current administration has been faced with serious economic difficulties it has been able to carry out all planned projects. He also denied rumors that there are differences between himself and Dr Suazo Cordova, stressing that "those who make these things up are Honduras' enemies, who do not see the positive things that the government does. Anything said in this connection is completely false." On another subject, the chief of the Armed Forces said that the next military maneuvers, like "Big Pine I and II", will benefit the country greatly. He added that the new maneuvers may be called "Granadera I," in honor of the Central American anthem.

NICARAGUA

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO REAGAN CANDIDACY

State Council Secretary

PA311347 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, secretary of the State Council, will now discuss Reagan's announcement last night confirming his candidacy for reelection as the U.S. president.

[Begin recording] [Solis] We believe that if he is reelected in November, Reagan will continue his current policy toward our country, given his support for the Kissinger report, which includes recommendations for a military solution. This has been the basis of his policy. We must now await the U.S. electoral campaign and see what happens. We see a strong probability that there will be a reduction in the U.S. economic recovery.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you think that if Reagan is reelected the aggression against our country will increase, along with military assistance to countries like Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala? This would naturally restrict the actions of the freedom forces.

[Solis] We must also await the continuation of the Contadora process because, as we have been saying, the United States [words indistinct] although it is not a part of the process, in view of the support it is giving to Honduras and the operations of the Somozists. Therefore, it should be present at the negotiations, because in reality it is the chief cause of the destabilization and is the factor that is destroying peace in Central America.

In addition, we must realize that within the United States the issue of Central America is a fundamental aspect of the political campaign being undertaken by Democrats like Reagan [as heard]. We should also think about how much of an effect the Contadora process might have on U.S. policy. It is difficult to express an opinion in January about what is going to happen later. We are under the impression that if Reagan is reelected his policy will remain largely unchanged.

[Reporter] Thank you very much, Deputy Commander Solis. [end recording]

Political, Religious Figures

PA311637 [Editorial Report] Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 31 January broadcast reports on the reaction of various political and religious figures in Nicaragua to President Reagan's announcement of his intention to seek reelection.

The announcer began by saying that "Luis Rivas Leiva, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party of Nicaragua, believes that if U.S. President Ronald Reagan is reelected, he will have to change his policies," because, the announcer said, "there is heavy opposition in the U.S. Congress to a warmongering policy." He also cited Rivas Leiva as indicating that changes in Reagan's policy will also result from continued progress in Nicaragua's democratization process, because Reagan "will then have no political excuse for attacking Nicaragua." The announcer said that when Rivas Leiva was asked if the Social Democrats would approve of Reagan's reelection, he responded by saying that his party has no reason to meddle in U.S. domestic affairs.

Later in the broadcast the announcer cited Erick Ramirez, the acting president of the Social Christian Party, who described President Reagan's administration as a "negative" one. In a recorded statement, Ramirez referred to Reagan's plan to seek reelection: "I believe that Mr Reagan made that decision because he feels that he still has some political jobs to do as the U.S. president. Thus, we must assume that if he is reelected, his policy, his behavior, and his actions will follow the rules that have characterized his previous administration. If he is reelected, we can expect a continuation of the current U.S. conduct toward the Latin American and Central American countries, particularly toward Nicaragua."

The announcer next cited Victor Ocampo Espinoza, representing the Church of God and the Nicaraguan Association of Evangelical Pastors, ANPE, as stating that the death of 200 Miskitos at the hands of the Honduran Army on 6 January is a reflection of Ronald Reagan's current anti-Christian and warmongering policy. The announcer then transmitted a recorded statement by ANPE President Oscar Godoy:

"Astute evangelical pastors here in Nicaragua believe that this man's reelection would constitute a terrible disaster for mankind, because his policy until now has been to arm his nation and to destroy humanity. This was his intended policy even before he became president. Throughout the world, we can see how this policy is leading to catastrophe, the final consequences of which cannot be predicted. For this reason, we believe that the U.S. people will think carefully about this man, and will choose not to support him."

ORTEGA CERTAIN OF FSLN ELECTORAL VICTORY

PA312018 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 20 Jan 84 pp 1, 20-A

[Excerpts] "The Nicaraguan elections will accord with the facts of our situation, but we will take advantage of international electoral experience in order to secure the best results," Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government, has said. This was his response when asked if the election there would be like those held in Costa Rica and Venezuela. This is one of the opposition's major requests.

The Nicaraguan people will hold elections in 1985 and will thus decide whether or not they will support the revolution led by the FSLN.

This is how Ortega Saavedra defined the importance of this event. Completely sure of a Sandinist victory in the elections slated for next year, the regime's "political man" refused to even consider the possibility of defeat.

LA NACION interviewed Ortega Saavedra on Tuesday evening at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua. Ortega, who opposition sources and observers connected with the Sandinist Front regard as the man with the greatest chance of heading up the official presidential ticket, explained that the elections will be "an opportunity to demonstrate both at home and abroad that the people are with the revolution." He added that the people will be able to choose between continued support for the FSLN, as the leader of the political process, and some other direction.

Despite this, however, he never hesitated to assert that the electoral victory will go to the front. "We know that the people here will not vote against the revolutionary process," he said. "On the contrary, they will confirm it."

Question: Commander, let us consider the possibility of a Sandinist defeat in the election. **WHAT ROLE WOULD THE NATIONAL DIRECTORATE THEN PLAY IN NICARAGUA'S POLITICAL LIFE?** [passage in uppercase published in boldface]

Answer: You are asking me about a hypothetical situation. If we were even to consider the possibility of an FSLN defeat, we would be bad politicians. The front is maintained with the people's support.

He commented later on certain objections to participation by the military. In this regard, Ortega said: "We would not be the first Latin American country where military men, after being discharged, have participated, even serving as presidential candidates." "We are not implementing any great novelty in this regard, but are merely starting with a Latin American reality."

Asked if the Army, as a result of its dual role as a belligerent corps and as the guarantor of security and public order, accepts [acceptaba] the neutrality and honesty of the elections, he said that "there are no neutral armed forces in the full sense of the word. They are always at the service of something or someone."

In order to reinforce this notion, he recalled the role played by Somoza's National Guard and its repression of student, professional, and labor sectors in general. Then he drew a comparison: "Today the Army is at the service of the people; in this regard it has become politicized."

Finally, Ortega reiterated his regime's firm determination to go on with its election plans, "if the United States does not step up its policy of aggression and confrontation."

ELECTORAL COMMISSION APPROVES DRAFT BILL

PA311933 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the Directorate of Press and Public Relations of the Nicaraguan State Council in Managua on 31 January]

[Text] Today, 31 January 1984, begins the electoral process in our country, on the basis of a decree issued by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction on 4 December 1983. Thus, the Electoral Commission wishes to report the following through the State Council's Directorate of Press and Public Relations:

1. The Electoral Commission has been holding working meetings since 21 January to assess and to discuss the electoral draft bill. At these meetings, important portions of the draft have been changed on the basis of the opinions of Electoral Commission members.
2. The members of the commission have now unanimously agreed to approve all chapters of the draft bill. Any points of conflict that might emerge will be discussed at a plenary State Council session.
3. The Electoral Commission has also decided to increase its work in the next few days so as to present the draft bill to the State Council in the first 15 days of February, so that the State Council representatives will have enough time to subject the articles of the draft bill to in-depth study and to consult their respective organizations.

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES SUFFER 200 CASUALTIES

PA312034 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The people, organized for defense, have inflicted heavy blows on the counter-revolution. The Nicaraguan people have inflicted more than 200 dead and an undetermined number of wounded on the enemy this year, forcing the Somozist groups to withdraw to Honduras. BARRICADA was told this last night by Commander Hugo Torres, chief of the Political Directorate of the Sandinist People's Army, who said the Sierra Plan has been frustrated but that the criminal threat still exists. Commander Torres warned that the Yankees will find it necessary to advance the "Big Pine II" maneuvers, which could increase the danger of a large-scale attack on Nicaragua and an eventual attack on El Salvador. The enemy suffered the most severe blows in Segovia and in Region 6, where six counterrevolutionary leaders were killed and one deserted. A few counterrevolutionary groups still remain in the mountains, but they will also be defeated.

ARDE REPORTS MILITARY CLASHES WITH SANDINISTS

PA311555 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[War Bulletin No 161 issued by the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command in "the Nicaraguan mountains" on 30 January]

[Text] The ARDE Armed Forces General Command reports to the Nicaraguan people and to the world's free people, that:

1. At 1000 on 23 January 1984 in Pabon No 2 in the jurisdiction of La Azucena, Barba 6's Squad 1, commanded by Companero Confite, fell into an ambush laid by the interventionist army involving lateral and frontal crossfire.

The high level of military preparedness of our forces enabled them to break through the cordon and counterattack, killing three of the enemy. It was also possible to rescue our comrade whose alias is Corro, who had been trapped in his position. After a 25-minute clash, the enemy retreated in disarray. For our part, companero Confite, the squad leader, was wounded and was taken to a field hospital, where he is receiving medical attention.

2. At 1100 on 25 January 1984 in El Conseulo, on the hill of (Sandial de Borrillo), in the jurisdiction of San Carlos, two of our squads, commanded by Companeros Gato Negro and El Chato, sighted a squad belonging to the occupation army that was attempting to reach one of our camps. They immediately performed an encircling operation supported by Squad No 4, under the command of Companero Amilcar, which took the right flank. The enemy was forced to retreat after 4 hours of fighting, in which the Army sustained 11 casualties.

While this action was under way, Companero Mario, in command of a reconnaissance patrol, detected a column in the rear guard that was advancing with heavy artillery. Our patrol attacked the column and forced it to retreat, killing two of the enemy.

3. At 1200 on 26 January 1984 in (Comarca Gayote), in San Miguelito, the jurisdiction of Rio San Juan, the Alvaro Lopez Castillo Squad, which is part of the Barba 4 Column and is commanded by Companero Tigre, ambushed a patrol belonging to the interventionist Army. In the 5-minute clash, our squad inflicted three casualties on the enemy and captured two members of the patrol, Gaitan Sasia Rufino and Vonela Jesus. Our squad also seized two M-16 rifles, bearing serial numbers 127283 and 9182445.

4. This is how the ARDE Armed Forces, despite its shortage of resources and despite the fact that we have had to make the difficult decision not to arm any more men, respond to the popular support that we receive and within our abilities continue our struggle to rescue the Nicaraguan revolution.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

SELA'S ALEGRETT VISITS BANK, DISCUSSES POLICIES

FL311920 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Raul Leon Torras, president of the National Bank of Cuba, has received in his Havana offices the SELA delegation headed by its Permanent Secretary Sebastian Alegrett. SELA representatives Miguel Rodriguez, director of coordination and consultation, and Miguel Angel Gonzalez, chief of projects, also participated in the meeting.

Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, accompanied the delegation on its visit to the National Bank of Cuba. National Bank President Torras greeted the SELA delegation. He explained the bank's functions to Alegrett and his delegation while they in turn explained SELA activities to Torras.

Holds Talks With Cabrisas

FL311940 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Carbisas Ruiz has received SELA Permanent Secretary Sebastian Alegrett. In their talks they discussed various topics of interest to Latin American countries, particularly the current international economic crisis and the situation the region is facing, as well as the results of the economic conference held in Quito.

REPORTAGE ON RODRIGUEZ VISIT TO BULGARIA

For Sofia BTA and Sofia Domestic Service coverage of the visit to Bulgaria by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Cuban CP Central Committee and vice president of the State Council and Council of Ministers, see the Bulgaria section of the 30 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

CTC COMMEMORATES CEPUSTAL'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

FL311451 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1403 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] commemorated the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Permanent Congress for the Labor Unity of Latin American and Caribbean Workers [Congreso Permanente de Unidad Sindical de los Trabajadores de America Latina y el Caribe -- CEPUSTAL] with an event held at the Granma Room of the Ministry of Construction.

Jesus Escandel, member of the CTC Executive Secretariat, recalled the valuable and combative activity of that labor organization since its creation in Brazil on 28 January 1964. The CEPUSTAL was founded to meet the urgent need of the Latin American labor movement to fight for the true interests of the region's workers. Escandel stressed that the CTC delegation which participated in the CEPUSTAL founding was headed by the unforgettable comrade Lazaro Pena.

SECOND SPARE PARTS CONFERENCE CONTINUES

FL311320 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Politburo members Commander of the Revolution Guillermo Garcia Frias and Pedro Miret Prieto presided over the opening session of the second national forum on the recovery and manufacture of spare parts, which was held at the Palace of Conventions in Havana.

The main report of the session was read by Marcos Lage, minister of the steelworking industry. The report contained a detailed analysis of work carried out in this field in the past year, during which the value of spare parts production reached 384,200,000 pesos. In the recovery of spare parts, 1983 levels surpassed 233 million pesos. The report pointed out the importance of this category to the industrial sector, considering what a high degree of import substitution represents for the country.

The report also insisted that it is imperative to follow the plan of first recovering the maximum amount possible, then manufacturing, and later struggling for import substitutions to strengthen the technical rigor of the procedures currently used to reinforce the efforts of the investigations centers.

The event will end tomorrow night at a ceremony at the Karl Marx Theater.

ARRIVAL OF SHULTZ, STONE IN EL SALVADOR NOTED

PA010220 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Today U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz left for El Salvador, the first leg of his tour of five Latin American and Caribbean countries. His arrival in San Salvador almost coincided with the arrival of Richard Stone, U.S. special envoy for Central America, who arrived from Bogota, Colombia.

At the airport, George Shultz and Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena said that their governments share common objectives.

The next stop in Shultz' itinerary will be Brazil, where he will sign a military cooperation agreement and will revise other agreements in the financial, commercial-economic, nuclear energy, scientific, and airspace areas.

FMLN CHARGES MASS RECRUITMENT BY SALVADORAN ARMY

PA312251 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The FMLN has charged that the Army and other repressive forces of the Salvadoran regime have continued their mass campaign to forcefully recruit youths. According to the clandestine station Radio Farabundo Marti, hundreds of young people are forced by the members of the death squads and the so-called Civilian Defense Patrols to dig trenches and secret hiding places for use by the paramilitary groups that operate in Santa Ana Department.

Radio Venceremos, voice of the FMLN, has announced that the Salvadoran Army killed Prof (Luis Marquez). (Marquez) was detained on 19 January with two relatives, who are still at the garrison in San Francisco Gotera.

Meanwhile, the news agency SALPRESS charged that the regime's planes last Friday bombed several villages near the city of Nejapa. The agency stated that in 1983 the Salvadoran Air Force launched 227 bombings against the country's civilian population.

From another quarter, THE WASHINGTON POST claims that the Salvadoran Army plans to increase by 20 percent the number of its troops, and is already preparing to readjust its antiguerrilla tactics in an effort to retake the initiative in the counter-insurgency struggle prior to the election slated for March 1984.

ORPA REPORTS OCCUPATION OF FARMS IN GUATEMALA

FL311435 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1403 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The Armed People's Revolutionary Organization [ORPA] has reported that its forces occupied several farms in southern Guatemala, where they held political meetings with workers and distributed revolutionary propaganda.

In addition, ORPA noted that in the attack on the presidential residence carried out in Guatemala City on 26 January, its urban guerrillas fired four mortar shells, three of which hit the terrace and patio of the residence and the shops [talleres] of the presidential guard's general staff. During these attacks, the government forces sustained several casualties, both dead and wounded, and some property damage, the ORPA report added. ORPA stressed that the actions were only aimed at military objectives and that no civilians were hurt.

INTERVIEW WITH GUATEMALAN EGP MEMBER ON STRUGGLE

PA302238 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Interview with Julian Perez, member of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army, EGP, by reporter Estrella Diaz; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Perez] The EGP is a revolutionary political-military organization that struggles in the plains, cities, and (?municipalities) of Guatemala to give power to the Guatemalan people. It is supported by the sister organizations that are members of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG]. This is part of [words indistinct].

[Diaz] Why is the face of Commander Ernesto Che Guevara on the EGP (?flag)?

[Perez] Commander Ernesto Che Guevara's outstanding revolutionary qualities and his role as a pioneer of the policy of guerrilla warfare are very important to us, because our policies and our struggle are based on political-military principles, especially the principles of guerrilla warfare. In addition, the spirit of proletarian internationalism is an example to be emulated now by all revolutionaries. To all of us, Che represents struggle, devotion, and sacrifice. These are great qualities that must be cultivated by upcoming generations.

[Diaz] The EGP was created in 1972. That means it marks its 12th anniversary this year. How would you summarize the work carried out by the EGP in these 12 years of struggle?

[Perez] In a broad sense, we can say that the tasks carried out during this period have been difficult ones. For example, it is difficult to build an organization, raise the people's consciousness, and provide the Guatemalan revolution with a meaningful content. Our effort is shared by other URNG member organizations. Actually, the takeover of power is feasible to the extent that the process of unity advances. As an organization, we could say that we have learned many things. We have shared the hard life of the people. In our struggle, we have drawn closer to the Guatemalan people. We can now say that we are trying to strengthen the Guatemalan people's revolutionary struggle. At this time we are in a phase of struggle for territory, people, and power. We must concentrate all our efforts on carrying out meaningful guerrilla operations and obtaining the people's participation in the struggle to build a new society with better living conditions for all.

[Diaz] What are the main tasks set by the EGP for the year that has just begun?

[Perez] Well, in 1984 we will all have to take part in different tasks. We must make an effort to strengthen our organization, advance the URNG process, and direct all our group's efforts toward supporting the Guatemalan revolution.

[Diaz] What has been the role of youth in the EGP?

[Perez] In Guatemala, youths run perhaps the highest risk of being killed by the enemy army. I mean that Guatemalan youths suffer great repression, exploitation, and discrimination. Many youths do not even enjoy a normal life -- that is, a peaceful life with opportunities for improvement -- as a result of poverty and exploitation. The repression reaches all sectors of the country, including the youth. This is why in Guatemala one cannot be a youth without also being a revolutionary. The only alternative any of us have is to take part in the liberation of the people.

U.S.-HONDURAN 'BIG PINE II' MANEUVERS TO END SOON

PA281456 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Official sources have announced in Tegucigalpa that the last and most decisive phase of the joint U.S.-Honduran "Big Pine II" maneuvers will be staged 30 January to 12 February. According to these sources, the joint maneuvers will include simulated counterinsurgency clashes as a continuation of the amphibious landing staged last November on the northern coast of Honduras.

Airplanes of the Honduran and U.S. Air Forces will back the land maneuvers and provide logistical support. A total of 1,600 paratroopers, members of the Honduran 24 Infantry Battalion, will participate in this maneuver, jumping from American C-130 planes.

7,000 Troops Participate

PA301812 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The "Big Pine II" military maneuvers that the U.S. and Honduran troops have been conducting will end on 4 February with an exercise to be carried out in Honduras' Olancho Department, on the Nicaraguan border, by 7,000 combined troops.

The final exercises of this phase of the joint U.S.-Honduran drills will be comprised of large-scale simulated air and land counterinsurgency battles, and will include the use of the most highly advanced weapons and war materiel.

Once the second phase of the "Big Pine" maneuvers concludes, a new series of exercises will begin. According to General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, the new maneuvers will be called Granadera, in honor of the anthem of the former Central American Federation. Alvarez Martinez noted that the name indicates the possibility that the Honduran, Guatemalan, and Salvadoran Armies might participate in these maneuvers, which will take place in areas near those countries' borders.

Political observers believe that the true goal of the joint U.S.-Honduran "Big Pine" exercises is to strengthen the Honduran Armed Forces and to threaten Nicaragua's Sandinist revolution.

HONDURAN AIRSTRIPS REPORTEDLY HELP CONTRAS

PA310107 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency is increasingly using the airports that were recently built or expanded for the U.S.-Honduran maneuvers to help anti-Sandinist forces. The newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST has revealed that camouflaged U.S. helicopters can be observed landing at those installations, located near the Honduran-Nicaraguan border. The newspaper notes that although Washington authorities have denied that the "Big Pine II" maneuvers are designed to help the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, it is a fact that those groups benefit from the infrastructure that was created for the exercises.

SALVADORANS IN HONDURAS OPPOSE RESETTLEMENT

PA301810 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The Honduran regime, in complicity with the U.S. Government, has reiterated that approximately 15,000 Salvadoran refugees living in camps near the border will soon be transferred to areas further inside Honduran territory. Honduran authorities have said that the Salvadoran refugee camps are a rebel rearguard, and that their location near the Salvadoran border threatens Honduran national security.

Workers from the Salvadoran camps have told foreign newsmen accredited in Honduras that the UN High Commissioner for Refugees agreed to the transfer under pressure from the U.S. Government, which wants to guarantee the effectiveness of the upcoming "Big Pine III" military maneuvers.

Meanwhile the Salvadoran refugees have said that they would rather die in the camps or be repatriated en masse to El Salvador and fall into the Army's hands than abandon the homes that they have made in the past 3 years.

NICARAGUA'S TORRES QUOTED ON CONTRA CASUALTIES

FL312011 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] In Central America, setbacks to U.S. policy in the area have continued. The Sandinist armed forces killed more than 200 counterrevolutionaries and wounded many others during January, Brigade Commander Hugo Torres has reported.

Torres, chief of the political division of the Sandinist People's Army, stressed that the group of former Somozists who entered the country en masse are fleeing in disarray. He added that these mercenaries are fleeing to Honduras, others are hiding in the mountains without fighting, and many are turning themselves over to Sandinist authorities.

In addition, Torres warned of the danger of an invasion of Nicaragua with the announced beginning of the Joint U.S.-Honduran military maneuvers in Choluteca and Valle Departments. Torres added that the resemblance of the area of the exercises to Chinandega Department in Nicaragua is worrisome, and represents a serious threat of a U.S. invasion of his country. He emphasized that the new stage of "Big Pine II" will gather thousands of men, artillery, and aircraft which in a matter of hours could enter Nicaragua or invade nearby El Salvador.

NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT PLANS PROJECTS FOR ZELAYA

PA312001 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Commander Tomas Borge Martinez, Nicaraguan interior minister, declared that the Sandinist government has already invested \$240 million in the traditionally ignored Zelaya Department, which comprises 42 percent of Nicaraguan territory and is located on the Atlantic coast.

The interior minister, who is a member of the Sandinist Front's national leadership, explained some of the main economic projects underway in Zelaya Department, which is a primary target for the U.S. Government's destabilizing policy aimed at the Sandinist revolution. The government programs to improve conditions in Zelaya include the production of the African palm, the construction of a deepwater port at El Bluff, the creation of a new airport in the city of Bluefields, and work on the hospital in Bluefields.

REGIONAL FORCE TO BECOME OECS JOINT ARMED FORCES

FL311930 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The so-called regional security forces, based in Barbados, will be transformed into a joint army of countries that are members of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States [OECS]. Barbadian Prime Minister Tom Adams has stated this in Bridgetown at the conclusion of his ruling Barbados Labor Party's annual conference. Adams added that his country is very close, spiritually and geographically, to the rest of the organization, and for this reason, the policy of multilateral cooperation and association must be reinforced.

The regional security force was created in November 1982 as a measure to isolate Grenada, then governed by the revolutionary administration of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. This small island, now occupied, was excluded from the regional security force, which is made up of troops from Barbados, Antigua, Dominica, St Lucia, and St Vincent.

CHILEAN REFUGEES REFUSED PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE

PA312320 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] The Chilean Army has refused to authorize the departure of four political refugees currently at the Vatican's mission in Santiago. The four refugees were scheduled to leave the country today, but their safe-conducts were not issued. The refusal to grant safe-conducts for the four Chilean refugees ignores the request made by Pope John Paul, II, who has asked that political asylum be granted. The Ecuadoran Government has expressed its willingness to accept the four politically persecuted Chileans, who are at the Apostolic Nunciature in Santiago.

Other reports state that the Chilean People's Democratic Movement and the Democratic Alliance have demanded a complete report on missing political prisoners in Chile. During an event held at a theater in the Chilean capital, demands were reiterated for the military authorities to report the truth on each missing persons case, for the persons responsible to be tried, and for the repressive apparatus operating in the country to be dismantled.

STONE MEETS WITH PRESIDENT BETANCUR IN BOGOTA

PA312008 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] In Bogota, Colombian President Belisario Betancur has received Richard Stone, the U.S. special envoy to Central America. Following the meeting, Stone told reporters that he had discussed the Central American situation with President Betancur, but that their main topic was the OAS and the upcoming election of its new secretary general. He added that the so-called Kissinger commission's recommendations for economic aid for Central America will take more than a year to be approved.

The U.S. roving ambassador traveled to Bogota to attend a forum of the International Democratic Union [Union Democratica Internacional], sponsored by the FRG's Konrad Adenauer Foundation. Stone will next travel to El Salvador and then to Venezuela to attend the inaugural ceremony for Jaime Lusinchi, the Venezuelan president-elect.

SOCIAL DEMOCRAT LEADS IN ECUADORAN ELECTIONS

PA302204 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] With approximately 70 percent of the votes cast in yesterday's Ecuadoran elections counted, Rodrigo Borja, the social democratic presidential candidate, is in the lead, followed by Leon Febres, candidate of the conservative coalition National Reconstruction Front. However, neither of the candidates will attain the majority required for election, and they will have to resort to a runoff election scheduled for 6 May.

Sunday's elections in Ecuador preceeded calmly, although incidents in several provinces left a toll of 1 dead, 2 injured, and 28 arrested.

Yesterday's voting included the election of parliament members, prefects, mayors, and members of municipal and provincial governments.

CONTINUATION OF PERUVIAN WORKER STRIKES NOTED

PA310249 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] The indefinite strike staged by 30,000 Peruvian bank workers has entered its 11th day, while workers of the state-run company Pescaperu [State Fishmeal and Fish Oil Production Agency] began their second week of strike.

In view of the failure of negotiations with the management sector, leaders of the bank workers will meet with Labor Minister Joaquin Leguia. Meanwhile, Pescaperu union leaders will meet with Minister of Fisheries (Ismael Benavides) [as heard].

It was also reported from Lima today that port workers staged a 2-hour strike, while the 5,000 railroad workers in southern Peru have announced that they will go on regional strike if the state-run railroad company does not satisfy their demands for wage increases.

FEDERATION DEMANDS REPORT ON MISSING PERUVIANS

PA282017 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Missing Detainees in Peru [Federacion Latinoamericana de Asociaciones de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos del Peru] has given the military authorities in Ayacucho a 15-day deadline to report on the whereabouts of 173 people.

The organization has explained that unless a positive response is received within this period, a charge will be filed against General (Clemente Noel), who is blamed for these disappearances, which occurred when he was chief of the political-military command in Ayacucho Department. Numerous bodies of unidentified individuals have been found in that region recently, and in each case it has been charged that they were the result of collective slaughters carried out by the police and military forces that control the area.

ARMED ATTACKS, OTHER VIOLENCE IN PERU REPORTED

Bomb Blast in Lima

PA271929 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] A group of armed men attacked a camp belonging to the Public Works Department and later attacked a police post in Ayacucho Department, killing two persons and wounding two others. Following the attack, police forces arrested more than 20 persons.

It was learned in Lima that a bomb exploded near the U.S. Embassy, and other bombs exploded near banking installations. These blasts occurred on the anniversary of the founding of Lima.

Power Plant Attacked

PA290129 Havana International Service in Quechua 1200 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Peru -- A heavily armed group that included a woman tried to blow up a power plant in Santa Rosa with dynamite, wounding a republican guardsman in the action.

A group of 50 armed men, presumably belonging to the armed group Shining Path, has attacked (Chacacicha) in Ayacucho, causing heavy damage to the plantation.

Luis Morales, a correspondent for EL DIARIO MARKA in Ayacucho, has accused Civil Guard Colonel Armando Mellet Castillo of trying to run him over with his car in reprisal for the correspondent's charges of abuses committed by the authorities against the inhabitants of Ayacucho. The correspondent denied that members of the Shining Path were to blame for the death of 21 peasants in the community of [words indistinct]. The correspondent explained that the peasants were killed fighting over land they wanted for their community. In other words, it was a long-standing internal dispute that ended in a pitched battle.

Student Unrest Noted

PA291725 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] In Lima, a law student from the University of San Marcos was seriously injured when police opened fire to disperse a demonstration protesting the law on universities and the transport fare hikes. For the last 4 days students of the University of San Marcos and of the National University of Engineering have been demonstrating against these government measures. More than 100 students have been detained, and many have been injured.

Peru's 30,000 bank employees are in their 6th consecutive day of a strike to demand fulfillment of collective labor agreements and satisfaction of their economic demands. The employees have accused the Labor Ministry of favoring bank owners.

The indefinite general strike begun Tuesday by 5,000 workers of Pescaperu [State Fishmeal and Fish Oil Production Agency] to press for better labor conditions has also continued.

For their part, workers in the port of Callao have announced that they will strike for the approval of a list of demands they submitted to management 58 days ago but which has not yet been satisfied.

Police, Students Clash

PA272019 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] The Peruvian police have brutally suppressed a student demonstration in the city of Huancayo. As a result, 2 students have died and 40 others were wounded, 20 of them seriously.

The police fired rifles and shotguns to break up the demonstration. The students were protesting a new university law dictated by the government. One of the dead was Isaias Bravo Flores. The body of the other student, who has not yet been identified, is missing according to a local radio station.

It has also been reported that the students captured Police Captain Victor Alciaga, whom they are holding hostage to demand the release of 18 university students under arrest.

In Lima, the Peruvian capital, there were also clashes between students and police because of protests of the university law and the urban bus fare increase.

5 Peasants Killed

PA300412 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The Peruvian daily EL OBSERVADOR has reported that five peasants were killed by an Army patrol in Macrachaca, in the southern Andean Department of Ayacucho. The paper noted that Jesus Chavez, the presiding judge, will leave for Ocros, 15 km from Ayacucho, to make the identification of the five bodies, which were found in a creek.

Other dispatches indicate that 30,000 bank workers have been on strike for over 1 week demanding fulfillment of their work contracts.

PERUVIAN PRISONERS ISSUE STATEMENT ON ABUSE

PA302227 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] It has been reported that prisoners in Lima, Peru, have issued a statement charging that regular prisoners as well as political prisoners are mistreated in the city's penitentiaries.

The Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Missing Detainees in Peru expressed concern upon learning that in Ayacucho a great many persons have disappeared, and that others have been murdered. So far, the exact number of persons missing or kidnapped is unknown, said (Loyola Guzman), the Bolivian who heads this federation. Loyola Guzman is visiting Ayacucho and other Peruvian departments because the federation is carrying out an in-depth investigation of all the charges.

An International Red Cross commission will soon arrive in Peru, invited by several Peruvian civic organizations that have learned that almost 2,000 persons have been declared missing or murdered since Ayacucho Department was declared in a state of emergency many years [as heard] ago.

WOMEN, CHILDREN PROTEST REGIME IN URUGUAY

PA281448 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Several thousand Uruguayan women and children staged an impromptu demonstration in Montevideo on Thursday evening to express their repudiation of Gregorio Alvarez' regime. Uruguayan intelligence service officials mingled with the demonstration's promoters and assaulted many of the young people participating in the demonstration.

Thousands of passers-by and cars circulating at the time along 18 July Avenue, central axis of the Uruguayan capital, quickly joined this protest demonstration organized by a group of mothers of missing and imprisoned persons.

Although no detentions have been reported, it is possible that some were made in view of the way Uruguayan police and anti-mutiny groups acted.

MEXICO'S SEPULVEDA ON L.A. ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

PA300028 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda has reiterated that it is necessary to find a Latin American solution to the economic crisis affecting that region. He also praised the results of the Latin American economic conference held recently in Quito, Ecuador.

Sepulveda spoke on a Mexican television program, saying that the Quito conference demonstrated the convergence of political interests of the participants and the need to agree on joint economic actions which, he said, would result in a much more fruitful commercial exchange among Latin American countries.

Regarding the Contadora Group's peacekeeping efforts, the Mexican foreign secretary noted that the support of the Quito conference for Contadora means that the Latin American governments recognize the political capacity of our continent to find solutions for regional problems.

MEXICAN RIGHTIST PARTY THREATENS PUEBLA MAYOR

PA311927 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Militants from the rightist Mexican National Action Party invaded the city hall in the industrial state of Puebla to demand positions in local administration. In an open challenge to public order, the invaders blocked all access to the seat of the municipal government of Puebla and threatened the mayor, a PRI member, with death. In recent months, the rightist National Action Party, which according to various press reports, is supported by the United States and by the church hierarchy, has called upon its members to use violence if necessary in defending positions they claim to have won in the municipal elections.

OECS, OTHER STATES MEET ON GRENADA SECURITY

Communique Issued

FL311842 Bridgetown CANA in English 1610 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 31 (CANA) -- The following is the text of the communique issued by heads of government of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States [OECS], who, along with representatives from the United States, Barbados, and Jamaica, ended a meeting here last night on this country's internal security:

At the invitation of the Government of Grenada, representatives of the OECS, Barbados, Jamaica, and the United States of America met in St George's, Grenada, on January 30, 1984. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of the Advisory Council of Grenada, to review arrangements pertaining to security and other related matters consequent upon the Multi-National Forces' intervention on 25th October 1983.

In his welcoming address, the chairman of the Advisory Council of Grenada placed on record Grenada's deep gratitude and sincere thanks for the military assistance rendered by the countries concerned in mounting the rescue mission launched on October 25th and expressed the hope for further efforts at regional cooperation.

The chairman of the OECS, Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, in reply, welcomed the opportunity for heads of government to meet in Grenada. She recognized the difficult tasks which Grenada was faced with but nevertheless hoped that the Advisory Council will do all in its power to hold general elections at the earliest possible opportunity.

The meeting reviewed the security situation in Grenada and considered reports on future arrangements for the maintenance of law and order for the period leading up to elections, including arrangements for finance.

The meeting received reports on the number and position of persons presently detained in Grenada and noted that the review tribunal established for this purpose was continuing to process applications from the detainees for their release.

The meeting was informed that the Advisory Council was giving consideration to the establishment of a commission of enquiry into the events leading up to October 19, 1983.

The meeting considered the matter of continued assistance in the maintenance of law and order from the countries presently participating in the Multi-National Forces and discussed the question of assistance from additional sources.

It was agreed that proposals discussed at the meeting in respect to arrangements for personnel, equipment, and financing for the security forces would be finalized for the consideration of the Advisory Council of Grenada.

The meeting was informed of the views of the Advisory Council of completion of the international airport at Point Salines and of the Council's hope for donor assistance in this respect.

Peacekeeping Force To Remain

FL312202 Bridgetown CANA in English 2158 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 31 (CANA) -- Trinidad and Tobago and Canada, two Commonwealth nations that opposed October's U.S.-led invasion of Grenada, are to be asked to contribute to the peace-keeping force on the island, Dominica Prime Minister Eugenia Charles has said.

Miss Charles, speaking here last night after a meeting of nations that participated in the intervention, said it looked at the possibility of inviting "friendly" commonwealth nations to take part. She cited Trinidad and Tobago and Canada and others "from the Commonwealth who wanted to help."

Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath Ramphal is reported to have ruled out aid from the Commonwealth Secretariat while forces from the U.S., Jamaica, Barbados, and five nations from the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) remain on the island.

Yesterday's meeting agreed to retain the peace-keeping force, which is responsible for Grenada's security, until at least elections are held as planned by the interim government in the latter part of 1984. "The new government would decide what to do next," Charles said.

Asked whether the decision should be seen as a rebuff to Ramphal, interim head Nicholas Brathwaite said: "Let us face it. From the very beginning the position taken for the intervention was on the basis that it was something which was to save the people of Grenada. The people of Grenada remained grateful for that....(They) continue to fear that the forces that destroyed themselves might regroup and, therefore, they want a security presence that would make them feel comfortable."

Brathwaite's services in the government were provided by the Secretariat under its technical assistance programme. He said it was clear among those attending the meeting, elections held under a foreign military presence "does not necessarily make the elections not free and fair."

Meanwhile, a communique issued late yesterday said the meeting was told that the interim government was giving consideration to the establishment of a commission of enquiry into October's political events. "The meeting received reports on the number and position of persons presently detained in Grenada and noted that the review tribunal established for this purpose was continuing to process applications from detainees for their release."

Some 39 people were held following the invasion, including head of the military government of the military government General Hudson Austin and former deputy prime minister, the Marxist Bernard Coard, whose bitter power struggle with Slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop set off a chain of events leading to the invasion. Bishop had been ousted and killed by the army six days before the October 25 invasion.

GUYANA QUESTIONS SEATING OF GRENADA AT CARICOM

FL301740 Bridgetown CANA in English 1702 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 30 (CANA) -- Guyana unsuccessfully challenged the legality of the seating of Grenada at last weekend's Caribbean Common Market (Caricom) Council of Ministers meeting here, conference sources have said.

Guyana condemned last October's U.S.-led invasion of Grenada and said it would not recognise the non-political interim government set up in St George's.

Caricom Secretary General Roderick Rainford said the Guyana team had raised the question of the seating of Grenada's delegation. "The Council noted the information and went ahead with the deliberations," Rainford said. He said the Council did not discuss points raised by the Guyana team with regard to Grenada.

BARBADOS MINISTER ON GUYANA CARICOM MEETING

FL302340 Bridgetown CANA in English 2208 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 30 (CANA) -- Caribbean Community (Caricom) trade and industry ministers who met recently in Guyana recommended consultations among regional governments before currencies are devalued, Barbados' Trade Minister Bernard St John has said. The ministers also called for a tightening up of the Community's trade rules to check encouragement of "screwdriver assembly firms," St John told reporters.

Noting recent devaluations in Guyana and Jamaica, St John said: "The treaty (establishing Caricom), in the opinion of many, is defective in that it permits one country or two countries to change the value of their currency to their advantage without great consultation." He added: "We recognise that something has to be done about this, otherwise you will find that the other countries may well feel that they went into the integration movement with certain assumptions and that those assumptions are removed. We have to address the problem." St John said that in other integration movements such large devaluations could not have taken place "without the most elaborate consultations" among member countries.

The ministers also held lengthy discussions on breaches and alleged violations of Caricom rules of origin governing the duty-free access of goods traded in the region. "For the first time, I think, it came to the surface that there is a feeling in some countries that some of the existing provisions in relation to the rules of origin are too generous and they encourage what is called screwdriver industries," St John said. He added: "It relates to things like stoves, refrigerators, television sets...that kind of assembly operation." According to St John, it was felt that the rules "are not tight enough." He said that "a sophisticated examination" of the rules showed that goods widely believed to be illegally traded intra-regionally in fact qualified for duty-free concessions. He said it was fortunate that even now a review of the rules of origin was taking place.

At the Guyana meeting, the ministers endorsed the proposal of Caricom finance ministers to establish a "regional surveillance committee" to look into breaches or alleged breaches of trade rules.

MINISTER WANTS TO END 'TECHNOLOGICAL COLONIALISM'

FL311702 Bridgetown CANA in English 1553 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 31 (CANA) -- Developing countries must develop the will to break out of the cycle of "technological colonialism," Barbados Energy Minister Senator Clyde Griffith has said. Griffith made his remarks at a three-day conference on "Priorities in Science and Technology in Preparation for the 90's" sponsored by the Organisation of American States (OAS).

He said that some of the major problems associated with the slow pace of development in Third World countries can be attributed to dependence on the industrialised West for technological support. "Thus we are caught in a seemingly never-ending cycle of technological colonialism. But we must develop the will to break out of that cycle," Griffith said yesterday. The Barbados Government, he said, was fully committed to the development of science and technology and the role which it has to play in the development of the country.

The conference is being attended by participants from Barbados, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Dominica, Trinidad and Tobago, St Lucia, St Kitts-Nevis, and the United States.

Griffith said that a survey conducted by the national council in 1980 showed that approximately 1.1 million dollars (one BDS dollar; 50 cents U.S.) per annum was spent on research, equivalent to about 0.1 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP). He said that this figure compared with 1.2 per cent of GDP which the U.S. spends on research and development, excluding military, space, and basic research.

The minister said that given the magnitude of the task of formulating a national policy on science and technology, Barbados recognised that it will be necessary to seek international and regional assistance. "It will also be necessary to co-ordinate its activity in this regard with all regional institutions," he said. Griffith told the conference that one of the important considerations in the process will be the sharing of information, particularly in areas where the island has made strides as in the field of alternative energy, where research is ongoing. Barbados believes it ought to share its findings with its Caribbean neighbours, he said.

DOMINICA

SAVARIN STATEMENT ON TRADE RELATIONS WITH GUYANA

FL312016 Bridgetown CANA in English 1823 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Jan 31 (CANA) -- The Dominica Government said today that its trading difficulties with fellow Caribbean Community (Caricom) partner Guyana have still not been resolved. But it said in a statement that a possible way to a solution had been identified. The statement quoted Minister Without Portfolio Charles Savarin as saying that the trade relations between the two Caricom states had been raised in Guyana over the weekend. Savarin was in Georgetown attending the 24th meeting of the Caricom Council of Ministers and, according to the statement, "the issue was a main talking point."

Guyana last November cancelled an order for soap from Dominica and also stopped a shipment of rice to this country. Dominica linked the action to the role played by Prime Minister Eugenia Charles in last October's U.S.-led invasion of Grenada, which Guyana condemned. Guyana repudiated the Dominica charge and said that Roseau had not signed a number of sales agreements.

Today's statement said it was decided that a possible solution to the problem could be the mounting of a trade mission by Guyana to Dominica. The statement quoted Savarin as saying that the mission could explore the market situation in Dominica in an effort to identify goods that can be sold here and goods that can be bought from Dominica. The statement said that the Dominica delegation made it clear that it was prepared to bring the matter back to the Council if it was not resolved.

Mr Savarin described the Guyana meeting as "a qualified success," but stated that there were still significant difficulties in the Caricom relationship.

GRENADA

FIRST TOURIST SHIP SINCE REVOLUTION TO ARRIVE

FL301550 Bridgetown CANA in English 1547 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 29 (CANA) -- Grenada is about to greet its first shipload of tourists since political disturbances last October torpedoed the island's cruise ship business. The Government Information Service (GIS) said the British-owned "Cunard Countess", which cancelled trips to the island last October, would bring about 800 tourists Tuesday.

The "Countess" last trip was made just before President Reagan sent troops to the island to unseat a military junta that had killed and ousted leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. Bishop's People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) was over-thrown after feuding that saw a number of ministers resigning and the prime minister being placed under house arrest.

The GIS said the Cunard Line had agreed to the resumption after discussions with Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of a caretaker government set up here in the aftermath of the U.S.-led invasion.

Meanwhile, the interim government in a move to revive the tourist industry -- one of the major earners of foreign exchange -- has invited a number of European travel writers here tomorrow. The promotion exercise is also being sponsored by Trinidad and Tobago's state-owned airline, BWIA International, and the West Germany-based Grenada tour operator, Caribbean Connections. The state-run "Radio Grenada" said the plan was to promote Grenada as the outstanding Caribbean holiday destination for 1984 and 1985.

JAMAICA

SEAGA ANNOUNCES PLAN TO ESTABLISH NEWS AGENCY

FL302144 Bridgetown CANA in English 1908 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 30 (CANA) -- Jamaica plans to establish a news agency to tell the world its views, particularly North America, Prime Minister Edward Seaga has announced. Seaga made the disclosure in an address Sunday to a meeting of the American Newspaper Publishers Association (ANPA) in the north coast town of Ocho Rios. He said Jamaica wanted to reach out more to the North American Continent, with which it has prominent links.

The former socialist Michael Manley government set up the JAMPRESS news service, which functioned out of the Jamaica Information Service, channelling material through the Nonaligned News Pool and Action of National Information Systems (ASIN), which groups state news agencies in Latin America. When the Seaga government took office in 1980 it suspended JAMPRESS pending a review, but it has not been restarted.

Seaga said the agency will be established with the intention of providing foreign newspapers with material so that they may be better aware of what is happening in Jamaica. "It is only on that basis there can be true understanding of our perspective, just as we hope some linkages with you will enable us to understand better your perspective, and this great understanding can come only by a greater exchange of information," he declared.

Seaga is the minister responsible for information, but the day-to-day aspect of the job is handled by Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister Mike Henry.

The prime minister did not announce when the news agency would get started, and neither did he give details of its structure.

BANANA INDUSTRY MOVES BACK TOWARD PRIVATE SECTOR

FL311355 Bridgetown CANA in English 1159 GMT 31 Jan 84

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 31 (CANA) -- The Jamaica Government is moving to hand control of the island's banana industry back to the private sector, in keeping with the policy of the Edward Seaga regime of divesting state concerns considered inefficient and a burden on the public purse.

The agriculture minister, Percival Broderick, in unveiling the divestment plan, said there was a growing realisation in the government that it "must get out of the business of attempting the day-to-day management of the production aspects of the industry and leave it to the growers."

"In almost every instance the things run by government cost more and are generally less efficient," Broderick told members of the All-Island Banana Growers Association (AIBGA), which he expects to play a major role in the re-organisation of the industry.

From an export production of over 200,000 tonnes of bananas in 1966, production declined to a mere 69,000 tonnes in 1979, and 33,000 tonnes a year later when the industry was ravaged by hurricanes.

Jamaica's low production worried the government as banana is a traditional important earner of foreign exchange for this economically-strapped country, and there are also fears over the possible loss of the important British market for which it has a quota of up to 150,000 tonnes of fruit annually. With Jamaica being unable to satisfy the market, Central American fruit producers have been getting a better grip on the market, and Kingston has had to argue strenuously to keep its quota intact.

BRIEFS

1983 COCOA PRODUCTION -- Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 27 (CANA) -- Jamaica produced its best cocoa crop in more than two decades, reaping 28,000 tonnes in 1982/83, and indications are that there will be another good harvest this season, according to Agriculture Minister Percival Broderick. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1800 GMT 27 Jan 84 FL]

GREENRIDGE ADDRESSES PARLIAMENT ON FOREIGN DEBT

FL312004 Bridgetown CANA in English 1816 GMT 31 Jan 84

[By Edwin Ali]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 31 (CANA) -- Guyana has indicated that it will have to seek some rescheduling of its massive foreign debt.

Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Carl Greenridge told Parliament yesterday the public debt of this English-speaking South American republic stood at 2.625 billion dollars (one Guy dollar; 27 cents U.S.) at September 30 last year and was expected to rise when October-to-December transactions were taken into account.

"About one third is owed to bilateral agencies, slightly more than 40 per cent is owed to multi-lateral agencies, while amounts owed to various financial institutions, for suppliers credit and through loan stocks, together comprise about 18 per cent," the minister said. Nationalization payments account for 7.5 per cent of the total.

Servicing of the debt in 1984 would require about 450 million dollars (G), about 42 per cent of Guyana's projected export receipts of one billion dollars (G) for this year, Greenridge said. The situation was "clearly unsustainable" and "can be resolved only by methods which include rescheduling of our external debts," Greenridge said as he presented Guyana's 1984 budget.

He said it was a fundamental problem of international liquidity which has led to a build up in the arrears of Guyana's medium- and long-term debt payments to an estimated 119 million dollars (G) as of September 30, 1983.

Greenridge explained that due to this illiquidity, commercial arrears relating to payments for imported goods and services amounted to about 927.5 million dollars (G) on December 31, 1983.

The minister said these circumstances make it imperative for Guyana to boost export production and restrain consumption, particularly on nonessential imports. He said there was need to "urgently seek assistance on the most concessionary terms possible from the international community."

The 1984 budget envisages revenue of one billion dollars (G) for exports of goods and services, with imports put at 1.5 billion dollars.

IDB APPROVES LOAN FOR GIANT AGRICULTURAL PROJECT

FL280042 Bridgetown CANA in English 2110 GMT 27 Jan 84

[By Edwin Ali]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 27 (CANA) -- Local representative of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Pedro Abelardo Delgado said here the decision by the bank's Board of Directors to provide additional funding for a giant agricultural scheme east of the capital was based on economic and financial viability of the project. He said the bank has agreed to lend 40.7 million dollars (U.S.) from its ordinary capital resources, while a technical co-operation grant of one and a half million dollars U.S. was made available. Delgado said the aid approval was supported by the United States director on the IDB.

Last July, the U.S. blocked a similar loan to Guyana, using its power of veto which it exercised under the terms of the Funds for Special Operations (FSO).

Delgado was asked by CANA to comment on the recent decision by the IDB in view of the blocking of the loan last year. "We are going to finance the project because we think it is viable, feasible, for the technical, financial, and economic point of view. We have made a thorough analysis of the project and we feel the project is sufficiently sound to generate the repayment of the loan," he said.

The U.S. said its earlier objections were on technical grounds based on the feasibility of the project, but Georgetown had charged the action was political because Washington disliked its socialist policies.

The loan is for the second phase of the Mahaica, Mahicony Abary project, and is repayable in 25 years at a rate of 11 per cent. The purpose of the project is to bring approximately 37,000 acres of rice lands into full production, to increase rice output for export, and to help provide opportunities for private rice farmers in the area to increase their earnings, the bank said.

Specifically, the project will include the construction of 175 miles of secondary irrigation canals, 190 miles of secondary drains, and 380 miles of fair-weather roads.

Execution of the project will increase the income of about 3,000 farmers, of whom 2,300 are located in the project area, and will result in the production from 1980 onwards of 77,500 tonnes of rice a year representing a gross value of almost 40 million dollars (U.S.).

The bank also said it approved in 1978, 49.5 million dollars U.S. for the first phase of the project, consisting of the construction of flood control and primary irrigation and drainage works in the Abary River area, 48 miles east of here.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADORS TO PRESENT CREDENTIALS -- Two diplomats will present their credentials today to Prime Minister Ptolemy Reid at State House: Bangladesh High Commissioner Major General K.M. Shafiullah and Norwegian Ambassador Forde Elmar Thore Nilsen. [Summary] [Georgetown Guyana Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 27 Jan 84 FL]

MANUFACTURERS TO COOPERATE IN CRISIS GOVERNMENT

FL312030 Bridgetown CANA in English 1831 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Jan 31 (CANA) -- The Manufacturers' Association of Suriname has indicated its willingness to accept conditional participation in the broad-based interim government the country's military rulers hope to form this week.

The association said in a statement that its members unanimously gave the executive committee a mandate to negotiate on participation in the crisis administration, the SURINAME NEWS AGENCY reported. But it said this would be on the condition that freedom of expression and press freedom be allowed and there be "equality of rights" among the military authorities, the trade union movement, and private sector in the government.

Military leader Desi Bouterse announced a week ago that the interim administration would be set up to restore economic and political order to the country after a prolonged crisis fuelled by unrest in the bauxite industry. The government led by Prime Minister Errol Alibux resigned earlier this month during a five-week bauxite strike.

The manufacturers are also proposing that among the tasks to be carried out by the interim cabinet should be the preparation of a draft constitution for the former Dutch colony, the creation of conditions for "permanent democratic structures," and moves towards the restoration of development aid.

Dutch development aid to Suriname was withdrawn more than a year ago, dealing a severe blow to Bouterse. The aid, which runs into one hundred million dollars U.S. a year, was made available under a treaty between the two countries which will end in 1990. The treaty was signed on Suriname's attainment of independence in 1975.

Last Sunday at a joint meeting of the trade union movement, the possible participation of the movement in the new interim cabinet was discussed. The meeting was told that a condition for the participation of the movement in the interim cabinet is that the appointment and dismissal of ministers in the interim administration should be done in collaboration with the trade union movement, the news agency said.

URUGUAYGOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE STRIKES PROHIBITED

PY311855 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The national government is going to regulate the right to strike. Accordingly, the executive branch submitted a bill to the Council of State during a meeting in the Government House with the participation of the National Security Council [COSENA] and the cabinet. According to the bill, public employees will not have the right to strike. This information was provided from Government House by (Bernardo Hillman), who said that today at noon the government submitted to the Council of State for urgent study a bill to regulate the right to strike.

After a 3-hour meeting with his cabinet and under the advice of COSENA, the president submitted the bill. Labor Minister Nestor Bolentini explained the decision, the range of the draft law, and the mechanisms to authorize a strike. The possibility of public employees striking was definitely ruled out, although they will be authorized to have their own union. Regarding another matter, Minister Bolentini said he was not aware that the executive branch was considering any changes in the law on political parties.

VENEZUELAMAS LEADER DENIES REPORTS OF RESIGNATIONS

PA311704 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Rafael Guerra Ramos, leader of the Movement for Socialism, MAS, has declared that nothing unusual is happening in his party, while expressing surprise at information appearing in some news media indicating that the MAS Directorate has decided to resign en masse.

[Begin Guerra recording] It is regrettable that the information given the news media does not reflect the truth of what the MAS National Directorate agreed upon. In its meeting last Saturday, the National Directorate agreed to ask its members to put all of their positions at the disposal of the National Council, so that the latter may reorganize the directorate before the convention ends. This is quite different from the stories in the press indicating that the National Directorate has resigned. This is absolutely untrue. [end recording]